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TODAY'S WEATHER: Moderate ESE winds; widespread fog or mist again tonight. Becoming fair temporarily during the day, but for persisting on coasts with a SE exposure.
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure 1014.5 mbs., 29.96 in. Temperature 64.3 deg. F. Dew point 64 deg. F. Relative humidity 98. Wind direction East. Wind force 11 knots.
High water: 6 ft. 9 in. at 7.17 p.m. Low water: 0 in. at 2.47 a.m. (Friday).

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VOL. IV NO. 45

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1949.

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BAO DAI

Bao Dai To Return To Indo-China Next Month

TERMS OF AGREEMENT WITH FRENCH GOVT.

Paris, Feb. 23.—The French Government, after several years of negotiation, has reached agreement with Bao Dai, ex-Emperor of Annam, and he will go back to Indo-China before the end of March, according to a joint communique issued today by the French Premier's Office and by the Cabinet of the ex-Emperor in Paris.

The agreement will be confirmed by an exchange of letters shortly, it was learned from the Ministry of Overseas Territories. It was reached at a luncheon yesterday given by the ex-Emperor to the French Minister for Overseas Territories, M. Paul Coste Floure, who gave details to the French Cabinet today.

The terms of the agreement are being kept secret for the time being but will be submitted to the National Assembly on March 11, which has not yet been fixed for a debate on Indo-China. This debate is intended to end with a vote ratifying the terms of the agreement, and in particular regarding the assets of the French Republic in Indo-China—the "rice-bowl" of Vietnam State.

Despite the official agreement, some matters remain to be settled between the French Government and Bao Dai. According to usually reliable sources, one of the points of the agreement is French assent to let Cochinchina be included in the Vietnamese Republic "if the Cochinchina population opts for this union."

Thus, it has always been foreseen in the long drawn-out negotiations that it is not clear at present whether the ex-Emperor is prepared to return to Indo-China before this referendum has been held.

UNOFFICIAL FORECAST

If, as the French Minister of Overseas Territories said today, the ex-Emperor will return to Indo-China before the end of March, it seems that he will return before the referendum can be organized. But an official attached to the ex-Emperor was not prepared to commit himself on this point in Paris today.

At the same time this official said he was optimistic about reaching an agreement on all outstanding points of procedure, which apparently include the exact date of the ex-Emperor's return.

According to unofficial reports, the agreement with the ex-Emperor provides for:

- 1.—Freedom for Cochinchina to opt for unity with the Vietnamese Republic.
- 2.—Full administrative autonomy for the Vietnamese Republic.
- 3.—The constitution of a Vietnam Army.
- 4.—The appointment of Vietnam diplomatic agents in the countries of South East Asia.
- 5.—Military bases for the French Union in Vietnam controlled by the French General Staff.
- 6.—Representatives of Vietnam in the Assembly of the French Union—the "Parliament" of the French Empire which meets in Versailles and whose elected deputies represent all French overseas territories.

According to the same unofficial reports, economic questions remain to be settled. These include the control of the customs and of issuing the currency.

DR HO'S POSITION

French policy is based on the expectation that with the ex-Emperor assuming the role of head of the Vietnamese Republic, including Cochinchina, with a very large measure of self-government and independence within the framework of the French Union, the big majority of the population will rally to this regime and will thus enable the Vietnamese Government itself to specify the country and break the power of the Nationalist partisans led by Moscow-trained Dr Ho Chi-minh.

(Continued on Page 5)

PALESTINE ARMISTICE IS SIGNED

Rhodes, Feb. 24.—The following general armistice agreement between Egypt and Israel was signed here today:

"The parties to the present agreement, responding to the Security Council resolution of November 16, 1948, calling upon them as a further provisional measure under Article 40 of the Charter of the United Nations and in order to facilitate the transition from the present truce to permanent peace in Palestine to negotiate an armistice."

"Having decided to enter into negotiations under United Nations chairmanship concerning the implementation of the Security Council resolution of November 4 and 16, 1948."

"And having appointed representatives to negotiate and conclude an armistice agreement."

THE PROVISIONS

"The undersigned representatives in the full authority entrusted to them by their respective governments have agreed upon the following provisions:

"Article 2. With a view to ensuring the return of permanent peace in Palestine and in recognition of the impotence in this regard of mutual assurances concerning the future military operations of the parties, the following principles which shall be fully observed by both parties during the armistice are hereby affirmed:

- 1.—The injunction of the Security Council against resort to military force in settlement of the Palestine question shall henceforth be scrupulously respected by both parties.
- 2.—No aggressive action by the armed forces by land, sea or air on either party shall be undertaken, planned or threatened against the people or the armed forces of the other.

"It being understood that the use of the term 'planned' in this context had no bearing on normal staff planning as generally practised in military organisations."—Reuter.

House Of Lords Anxious About Situation In Malaya

MINISTER OF STATE OFFERS REASSURANCES

London, Feb. 23.—Lord Listowel, Minister of State for the Colonies, gave an assurance tonight that the total strength of the British forces in Malaya would not be reduced. Replying to a House of Lords debate on terrorist activities in Malaya, he said that he did not agree that the position there was worsening.

The High Commissioner considered that further military reinforcements were not at present required. He regarded the co-operation of the Chinese as the most important immediate step.

A British Government contribution to the "extremely heavy cost" of security in Malaya was being considered very carefully with full realisation of its weight and importance to Malaya, he added.

Viscount Ellbank, Conservative, who opened the debate, said conditions in Malaya had deteriorated. One reason was probably the Communist armies' advance in China. "There is little doubt that the success of the Communists in China will have its repercussions throughout the Far East."

"These repercussions Malaya is hardly likely to escape," he said. It was exceedingly fortunate that the Dutch had tackled their own problem in Indonesia with determination, since the proximity of Sumatra to the Malayan coast was a matter of constant danger.

MORE TROOPS NEEDED

Lord Ellbank suggested that armed patrol motor launches should be obtained to guard the west coast of Malaya from infiltration by cutters or other means of terrorists and sub-sea forces from Sumatra. Each launch should be fitted with a small gun and a small searchlight and should have a well armed crew recruited, he suggested, from the Malayan police.

More troops were needed than were now available, he said. He was advised of the serious shortages of experienced police officers for the newly recruited police and special constabulary.

It was also alleged that many of the British sergeants sent out had proved to be very raw material, he said. He suggested much more should be done to make use of picked Malays and other local material to provide leadership for that constabulary.

"The Malays have behaved splendidly throughout, recognising it is their own fortune which is at stake," he added. "In spite of almost daily murders of Europeans, morale was wonderful but the strain fearful."

Urging the use of strong measures to deal with the situation, Lord Ellbank said: "Our whole position and prestige in the Far East are at stake."

OBSCURE SITUATION

Lord Mancroft, Conservative, said: "It is not clear what is happening in Malaya at present, except that we are not winning." He hoped the Minister would contradict the "widespread rumours" that the Brigade of Guards was to be brought back to Britain in April.

There was too much about administration in Malaya, he said. The police instead of fighting the bandits, were checking up dog licences. "We are losing rubber at the rate of 10,000 tons a month at a loss of US\$4,000,000 a month," he said. "It is costing us £35,000 a day to fight this battle in Malaya."

Lord Airey, Conservative, said: "We are making very little, if any, headway in Malaya." Planters generally believed it was no longer a military problem. An entirely new approach to the situation was needed, cutting off from the terrorists supplies and information about British troops.

One plantation manager had written him saying many rich Chinese did not think the British

an increasing co-operation between the two countries and Governments," he said.

Lord Listowel said strong measures had recently been taken against these suspected of assisting the bandits. The Malayan Government had taken power to deport en masse inhabitants of certain areas who had persistently declined to co-operate with the security forces against the bandits.

These operations and subsequent reparations had been carried out with humanity but with extreme thoroughness.

It has been estimated that the protection money extorted from Chinese, particularly the well-to-do, by the bandits amounted in October and November last to as much as S\$250,000 a month apart from payments in kind. The Government had taken resolute action against persons known to be persistent in paying this blackmail. Many arrests had been made and more would be made. The Government would be no respecter of persons in this matter. It was encouraging to know that various Chinese associations were making a resolute stand against this practice.—Reuter.

Lord Listowel did not agree that the general situation in Malaya was worsening. Though the situation was still serious, there were some encouraging features. The number of bandits' attacks had steadily fallen from the peak of 278 in November to 232 in December and 198 in January.

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FEWER MURDERS

Murder of civilians of all races had dropped from an average of 48 a month in the period June to December last year to 31 in January. After a special tribute to the Malayan police, Lord Listowel said police arm, wireless and transport equipment were being brought up to the most modern standard as rapidly as possible.

One of the most satisfactory features was that the authorities were now getting word more often of the bandits' movements and plans. This enabled swift counter-action to be taken.

Two thousand Gurkha troops would shortly arrive in Malaya to reinforce those already there.

In the week ended February 10 thirty-two enemy camps and in the week ended February 17 sixteen camps were located and destroyed. The Navy and Air Force had given valuable assistance by preventing the possibility of Communist reinforcements reaching Malaya. "There are signs that the main bandit forces have been unable to continue the fight in some areas," Lord Listowel said.

Two conferences between Siamese and Malayan officials had resulted in a valuable exchange of information and the establishment of contacts and a joint plan of operation had been carried out during the past fortnight by forces of both countries in the frontier area.

"This marks an important step forward in what we trust will be

HONGKONG PLANE DISASTER

Machine Crashes Into Hillside

SEVEN BODIES RECOVERED

A Cathay Pacific Airways C47 Dakota, carrying an unknown number of passengers from Manila, crashed into the hillside above King's Road, near Shaikwan, about noon today.

So far seven bodies have been recovered, but reporters are being kept away from the scene, and up to the time of going to press information about the disaster was meagre.

The plane, which was expected to arrive from Manila this morning, reached the Colony about 11.30 and requested permission to land on one of the Kai Tak runways.

The request was granted by the control tower, but soon afterwards another signal was received asking to be allowed to land on another runway.

This was the last Kai Tak heard from the aircraft.

First report to the police of the disaster came from Mr. A. I. Cash, Waterworks inspector, who reported that he had seen a plane flying low in the area near the reservoir above Health Village (south of the Talkoo Sugar Refinery), then suddenly he heard a crash.

Cathay Pacific while acknowledging that one of their planes was due to arrive from Manila this morning said they did not know how many passengers were aboard as the manifest was on the aircraft.

Wu Teh-chen Off To Nanking

Canton, Feb. 24.—Mr. Wu Teh-chen, deputy Premier in the Nationalist Government, left Canton by air this morning for Nanking. It was also announced here that the Finance Minister will this afternoon at a press conference announce the new economic and currency reforms.

NAZIS HAD DEADLY POISON GAS

Mountain View, Calif., Feb. 23.—The Nazis had a poison liquid called "tabun," 50 times more deadly than any poison gas ever manufactured, according to a former Army expert, Major James Graham, whose job was to find and destroy poison gas in Germany after the war.

The name of the liquid was coined from the initials of the two German scientists who discovered the formula. They escaped from Germany when the Allies occupied the country and possibly went to Russia, where "tabun" conceivably was now being made, Major Graham said.

He told the San Jose Chamber of Commerce that tabun was so deadly that "one spot the size of a ten-cent piece" on the back of the hand or skin exposed to air would kill a man in two minutes. He said the Nazis never used tabun, but manufactured 125,000 tons, which they stored in secret "underground igloos" in Bavaria.

The Americans destroyed all except 1,000 tons, which they shipped to Aberdeen the proving grounds in Maryland. Major Graham said neither the U.S. occupation authorities nor scientists at Aberdeen had been able to find out the formula.—United Press.

EDITORIAL

Communism In India

IT is not surprising that the Government of India has been forced to take measures against Communist attempts to disrupt the life of the country. Such an attack upon the National Government was to be expected. Before Britain withdrew from control of the sub-continent in favour of the independent states of India and Pakistan, Communism in India was more nationalistic than the nationalists. Now it plots against the Nationalist Government. The pattern is familiar. It has already been seen in action in Burma, where the National Government formed originally by Aung San on pronounced nationalist and "Left" lines, was promptly assailed by force of arms. In India conditions are more stable and armistices easily come by, so the challenge to the freely-elected authority has been slower in reaching fruition, but the aim remains constant. It is to create that chaos in which starving people can be induced to embrace Communism, or at least to abstain from active opposition because they have been reduced to such straits that any change must be regarded as holding hopes for improvement. The timing of the Communist campaign in India betrays careful planning. It is reported to have been intended to open with an attack on the transport system on March 9 with sabotage to reinforce a strike. In a country like India where there are always areas on the verge of grave food shortages, if not famine, transport is of very special importance to the public. It is one weapon by which the Government can meet

such local hardship and prevent it from turning into disaster. In recent months the Government of India has been working hard on plans to bring about a big increase in food production. In order to provide more food for the people the Government has been considering various large schemes of irrigation and mechanical cultivation to increase acreage under food crops and yield from agricultural land. It is true that it will be years before any projects undertaken now can make a real contribution to the well-being of the Indian people; but the fact that the National Government showed clearly it appreciated that greater production was a real problem, was a danger signal to the Communists. Any increase in standards of living would automatically reduce their hopes of achieving power. So it is not without reason that they should have planned to strike before steps to that end could be implemented. If the prompt action of the Indian Government brings the present plot to nothing there is no telling what form the next Communist attempt may take. It might easily be in the form of stimulation of communal strife. There is nothing unusual about Communist intervention in racial or religious differences so long as such intervention seems likely to produce disruption. India would not be the first country in which Communists have wooed believers in "reactionary" faith in the confidence that the disharmony they would be able to encourage would so weaken the country that their self-appointed task of securing domination would be made easier.

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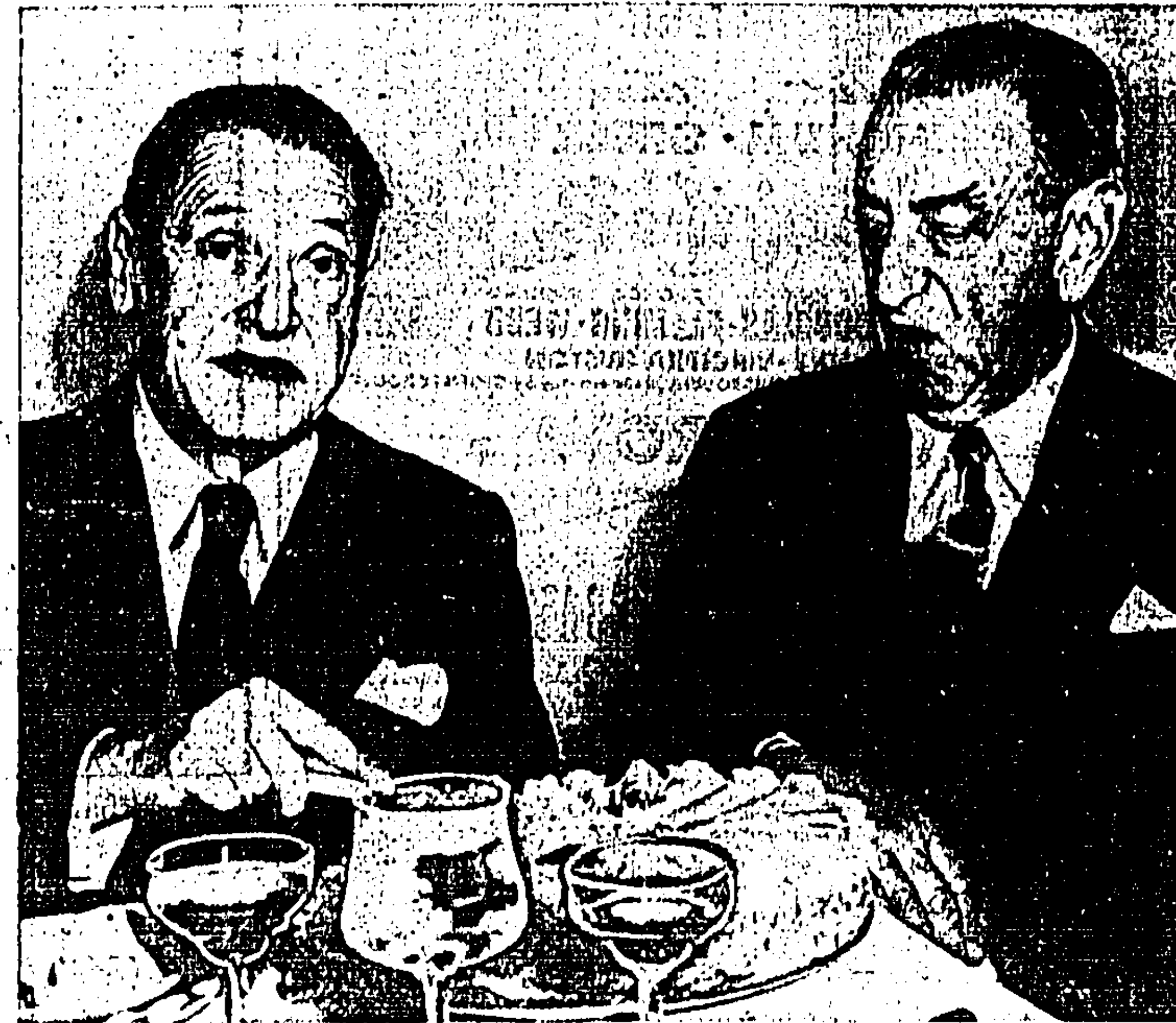
WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



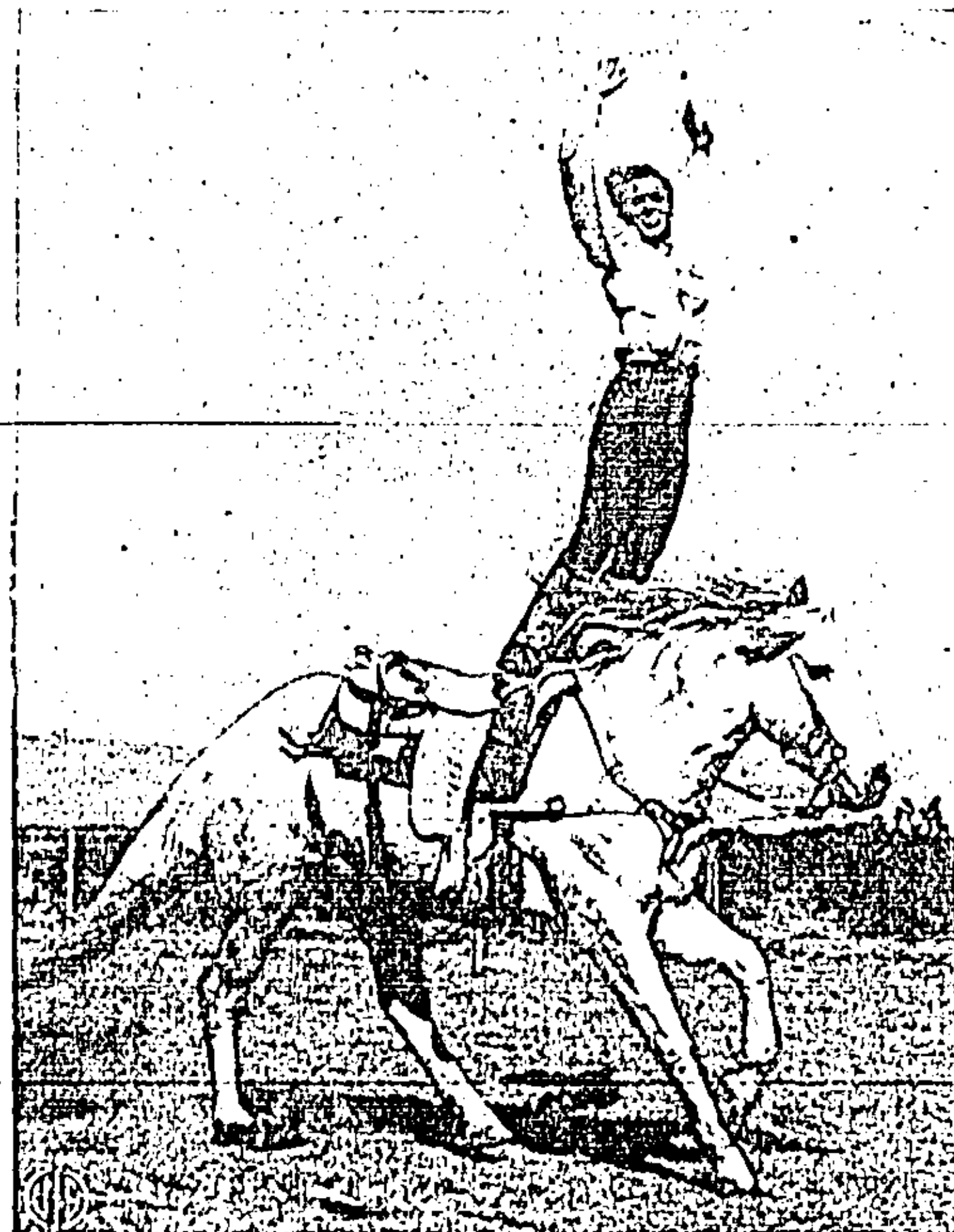
HAPPY DAYS?—Mary Janet Mueller can't quite make up her mind whether or not she is happy with her new found friends in St. Louis. The Sicilian donkey, left, and the St Bernard dog became friendly with Mary at the Sportsman's Show.



EARLY DAFFODILS—While other parts of America shiver, this attractive miss in Wilmington, North Carolina, is harvesting daffodils.



THE KNIFE'S EDGE—Noted British author, W. Somerset Maugham, left, cuts a piece of his birthday cake for Bertram E. Alanson in San Francisco. Maugham fulfilled a 25-year-old promise to spend his 75th birthday with Alanson.



COWGIRL QUEEN—Shirley Lucas, chosen queen of the annual Palm Springs, California, World Championship Rodeo, display her talents as a trick rider. All world champions of the cowboy and cowgirl realm gathered at the meet to defend their titles.



EN ROUTE TO CONFERENCE—Time passes quickly at International Field, Miami, as delegates en route to the Eucharistic Congress of the Roman Catholic Church converse in a light mood. Headed for Cali, Colombia, are, left to right, Msgr. William Barry, Miami Beach; Clement Cardinal Micara, Rome; Col. Enrico Ruppen, vice commander of the Swiss Guards at the Vatican, and Msgr. Silvio Romani, professor of canon law at the Vatican.



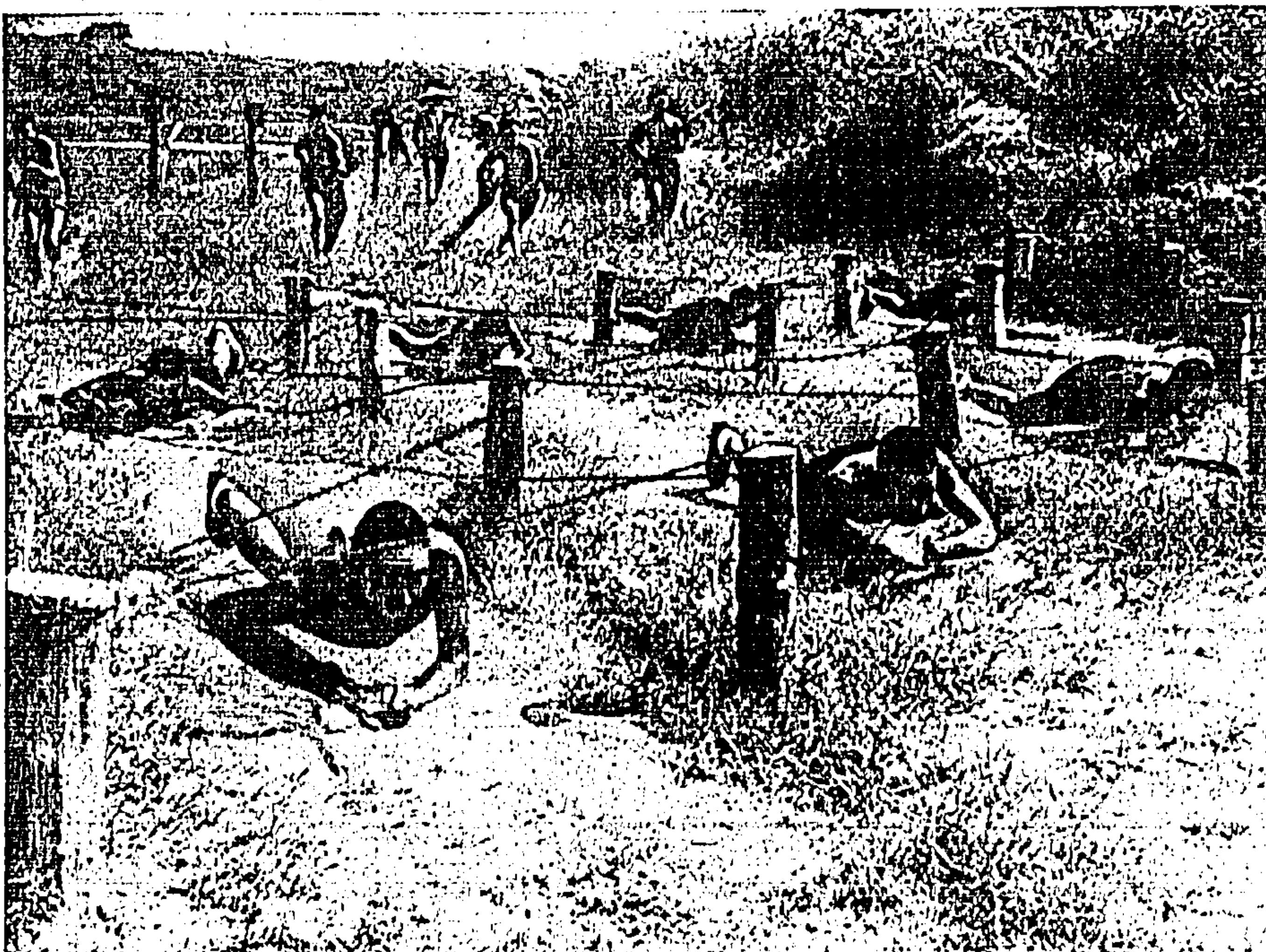
AT THE BEACH—The French bathing suit apparently isn't a French institution. Not according to the way Nevada Smith takes to it on Miami Beach.



WORLD LEADER—A student of the Faenza, Italy, school of ceramics puts models into an oven for drying and hard-baking. The next step is to paint and glaze the urns, plates and figurines which have made the school famous as a world leader in ceramic art.



FOR THE FAMILY ALBUM—Rita Hayworth and her anticipated husband-to-be, Aly Khan, pose at the Cannes chateau of Aly's father. Rita's future mother-in-law is the photographer.



CHINESE TRAINEES—The United States has officially ended the training of Chinese troops, but U.S. methods have left their mark, as can be attested by this obstacle course. Crawling under barbed wire in the sands of Formosa are soldiers of two divisions being trained on the island.

JOAN BLONDELL, glamorous star says, "Pink lipstick's the Hollywood craze and 'Pink Queen' is the perfect pink."



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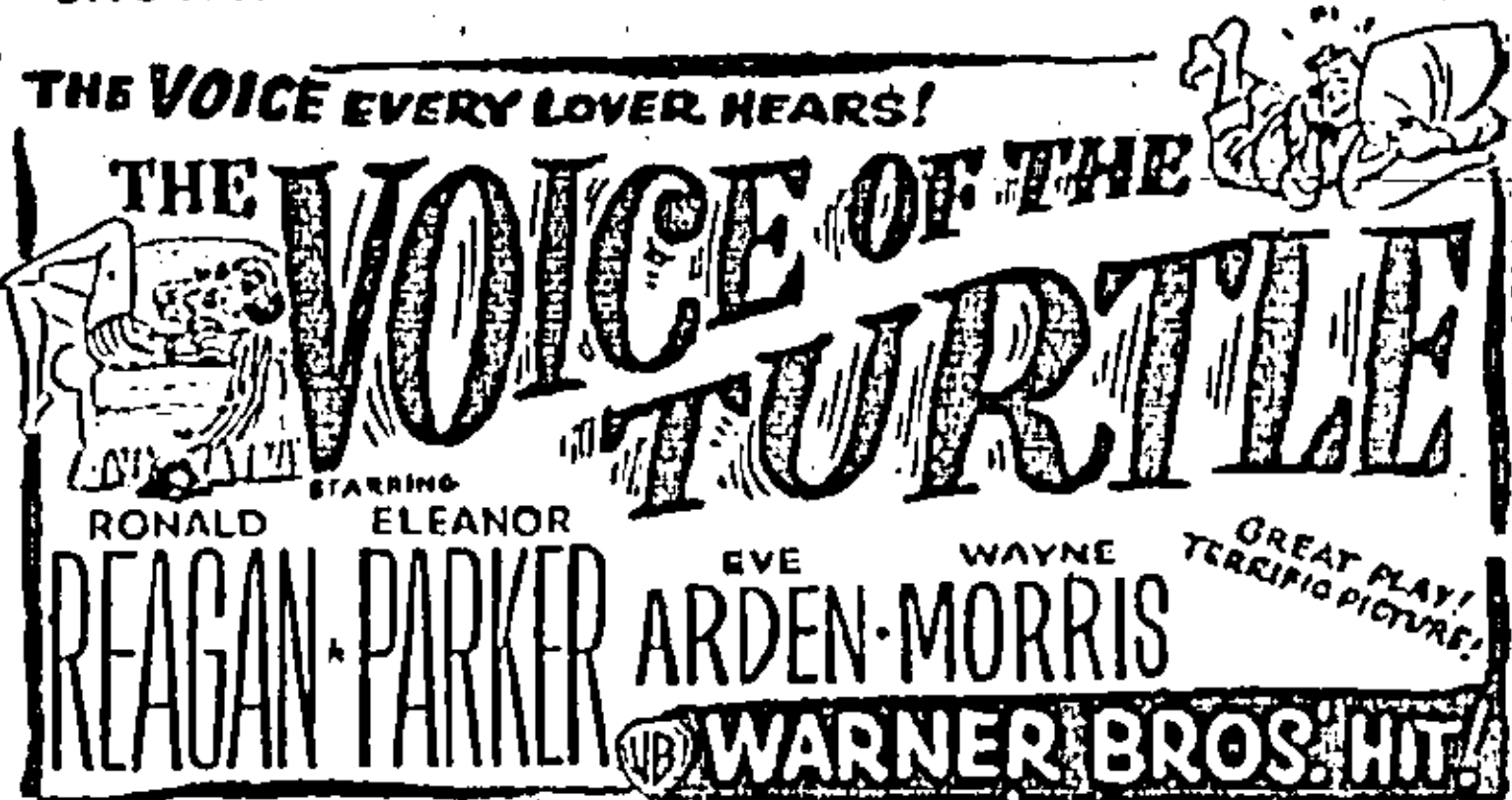
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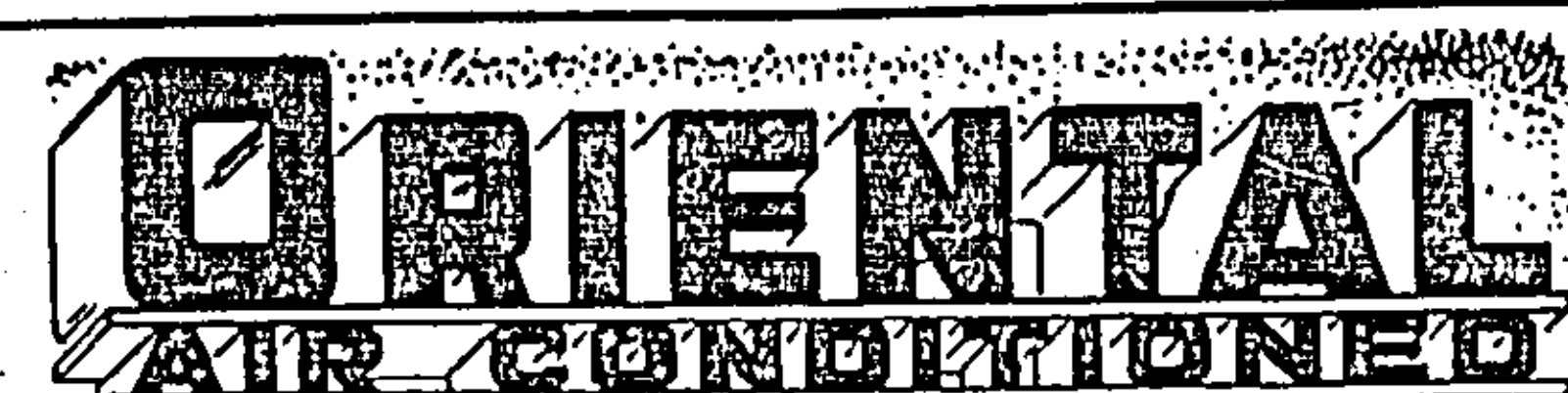
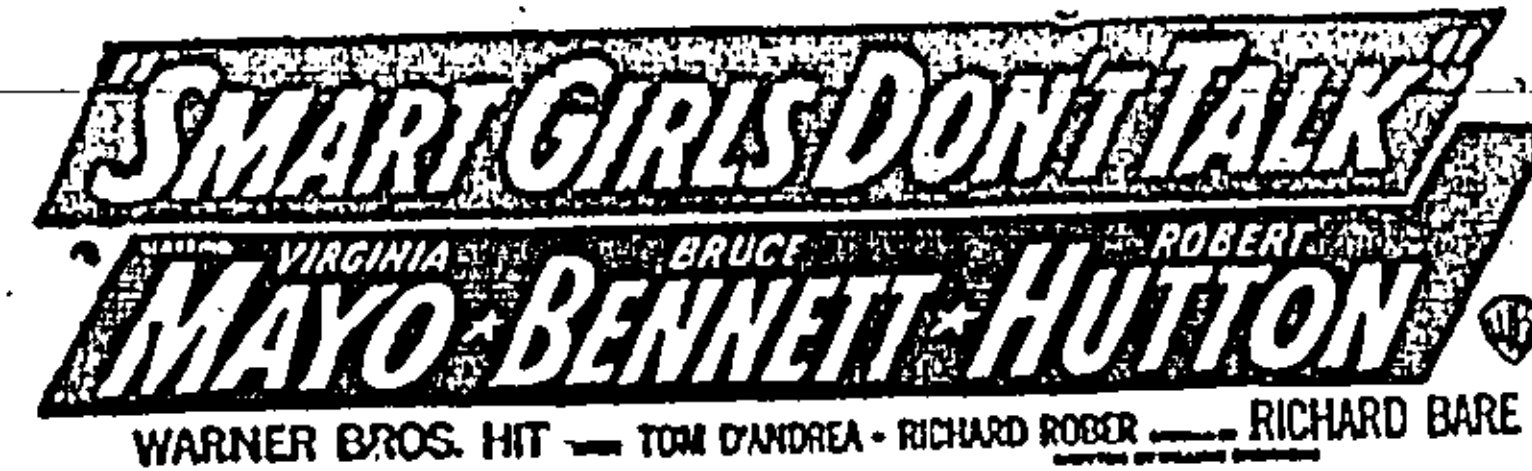
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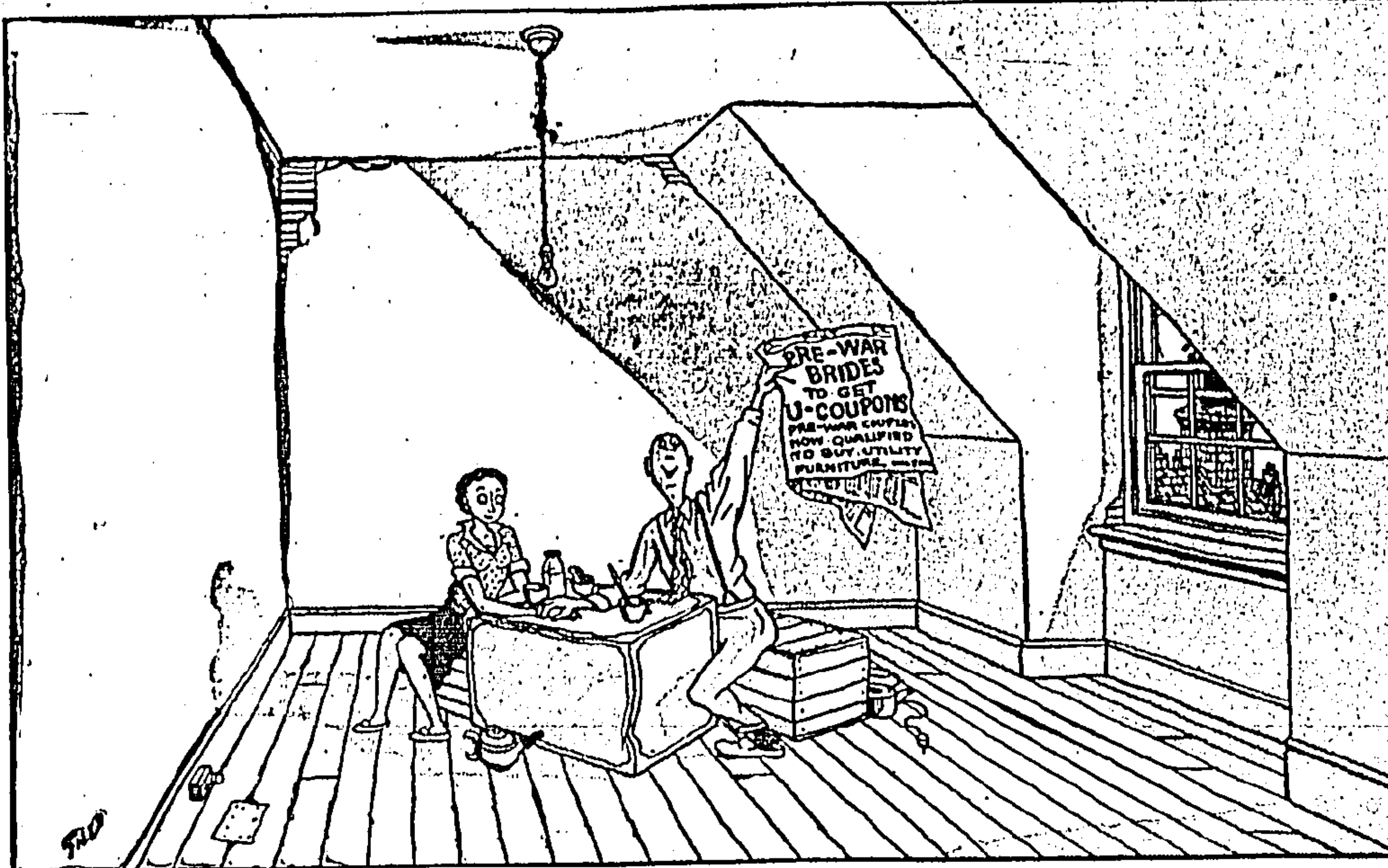
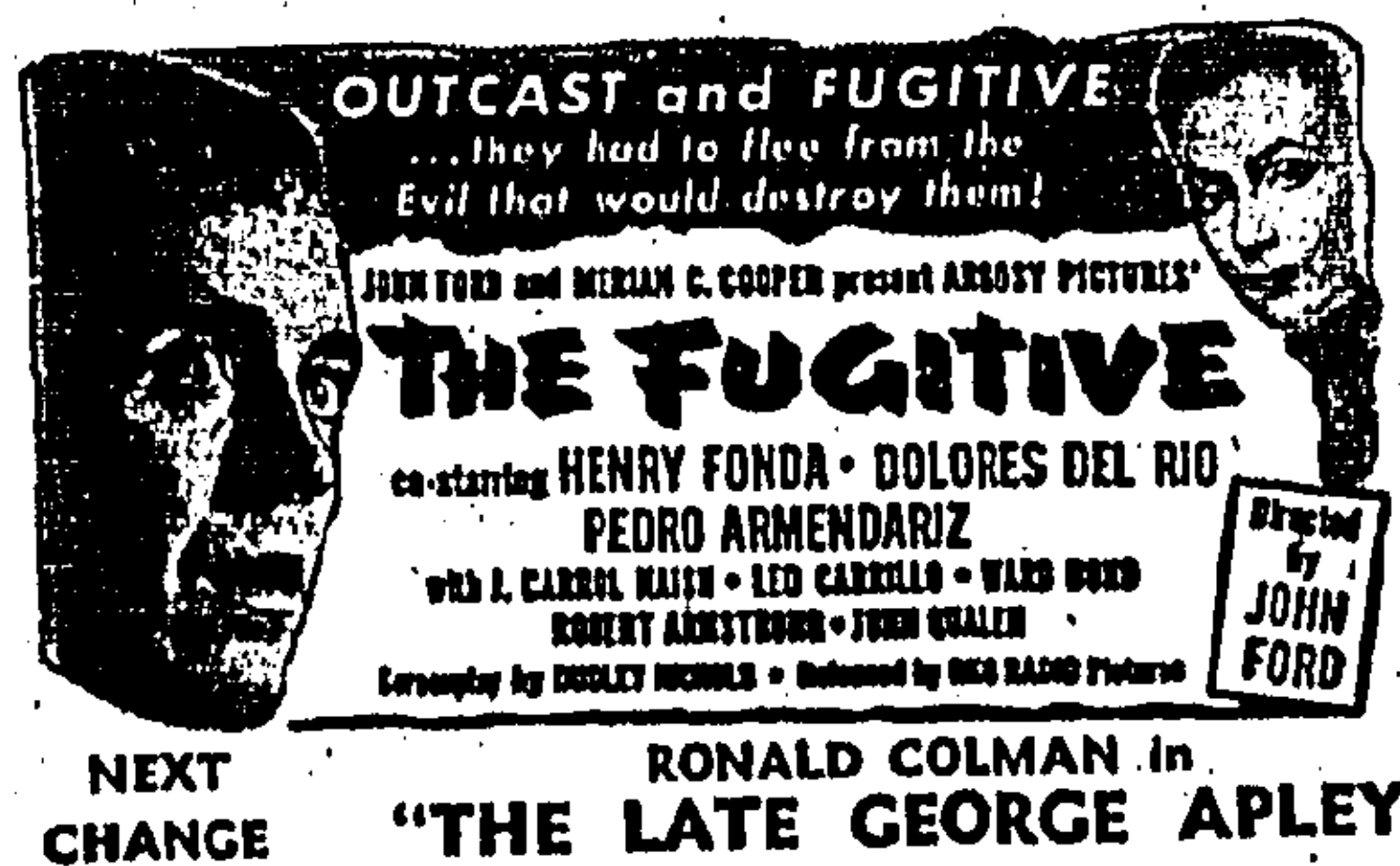
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THE BRITISH ARMY'S OWN UNIVERSITY

BY Colonel R.D. Neville, O.B.E.

ON the wall in the library of Beckett House, Shrivvenham, a m. Berkshire, in southern England, is a plaque bearing these words:—

"Presented by Staff and Faculty of Shrivvenham American University to the British Army in commemoration of the University's residence at Shrivvenham Barracks last Aug. to 5th Dec., 1945."

Now, in these same buildings, the British Army has created its own university with a student population of some four hundred officers. This Military College of Science will have the role of educating officers in pure science and technology so that they may be capable of appreciating the scientist's and engineer's problems in relation to the technological aspects of war. It will also train officers to apply their military knowledge and experience to these problems, so that they may later advise on the design and development of military material.

The College has two major functions. To give a university training in engineering or the natural sciences to young officers who have recently graduated from the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, and also to instruct more senior officers in military technology in order to qualify them for appointments in the Ministry of Supply or as Technical Staff Officers in the Army itself.

The young officers are drawn principally from the Royal Engineers, Royal Corps of Signals, and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, and they require a university training in order that they may be fully qualified officers of their respective corps. They include, however, a number of officers from other arms, notably Royal Armoured Corps and Royal Artillery, who have scientific leanings and who are destined in future to take their part in the development of the material of their respective arms.

Annual Intake

THE intake of officers at the Military College is about 90 a year. The course lasts two years, during which the officers take the examinations for the degree of Bachelor of Science, London University.

The second course is the Technical Staff Course, also lasting two years, with an intake of about 75 officers annually. These are selected from all arms of the British and Dominion armies, to whom are added a few officers from the United States Army. The British officers must have a suitable educational background, and must qualify by sitting for an entrance examination. Since the age bracket for the course is 27 to 32, this means that many officers have virtually to return to school in order to prepare themselves for the examination in mathematics and physics.

The first year of the course deals with fundamental science together with instruction in mechanical and electrical engineering. During the second year, the application of engineering theory and practice to weapon technology is taught—using the word "weapon" in its widest sense. This part of the course includes the principles of design. Illustrations of the application of these principles to practice is given by reference to examples of typical equipment, both British and foreign. Graduates are awarded the symbol "P.T.S.C." which denotes "passed technical staff course."

These officers are intended to be the link between the soldier "user" and the engineer and scientist. They understand the language of both and can use their military experience and engineering knowledge to ensure that the weapons provided for the Army are those which the soldier requires. They will not be limited throughout their service to technical work, but will, in time, be able to take part in the soldier's point of view. Furthermore the officers are to be considered as equally eligible, with graduates from the Staff College at Camberley, for appointment to War Office and Army staffs, and, in particular, to the higher appointments dealing with weapon development and procurement.

Private Research

It is important for the academic health of the College, that its activities should not be limited to these two courses. Capacity is reserved for post-graduate studies in specialised subjects, such as telecommunications, which the College is particularly well qualified to teach.

According to university custom in Britain, it is rightly expected that the professional staff should have both time and facilities to pursue private research. Not only are these provided, but the College is in a position to undertake more formal research contracts for the Ministry of Supply and other external organisations.

The College has been equipped with the most modern apparatus available, including such equipment as wind tunnels and different types of analysers. In addition to the normal laboratory equipment there is a wide range of modern artillery and infantry weapons, searchlights, radar, fighting vehicles, communications equipment, and an experimental ballistics range. For research purposes many of the professorial staff have their own personal laboratories.

The College is both a university and a military institution. This is reflected in its combined civil and military educational staff.

The four faculties of Mathematics and Physics, Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering and Instrument Technology are each directed by an eminent professor, who has under him two or more branches staffed by civilian associate professors and lecturers. The College does not yet possess a faculty of Civil Engineering. The faculties are responsible both for the young officers' courses and for the technical staff course.

The three Military Directors of Study (Colonels), with their small staff of technical staff officers, are outside the civil faculty organisation and are responsible for military application in the Technical Staff Course, and, in general, to ensure that the work of the faculties is biased, where bias is needed, towards the needs of military technology.

Study Groups

THE study of military technology is conducted by way of ad hoc study groups and panels under the direction of the appropriate Military Directors of Studies and instructional staff. Each group or panel is assigned, for the time being, to the study of one of such subjects as air defence, communications, automation, transport, ammunition, transportation and lubrication. Expert representatives of the War Office, Ministry of Supply and Army schools and other establishments frequently attend group and panel meetings, which are thus a fruitful means of spreading a common doctrine.

The College is commanded by a Major-General and it has been particularly fortunate in its first post-war Commandant, Major-General J. D. Shapland, CB, DSO, MC, who had a distinguished war record in Burma. In December 1948, when he was transferred to the British Army on the Rhine as Major-General in charge of Administration, he was succeeded by Major-General W. J. Eldridge, CB, CBE, DSO, MC. General Eldridge has had a wide experience in high appointments in the War Office, and was Director-General of Artillery at the Ministry of Supply, was in fighting service in France in World War I and in Anti-Aircraft Command and in Italy in the recent war.

The College has been equally fortunate in its Dean, Dr C. H. Lander, who is the head of the civil professorial staff. He was formerly a Professor of Engineering in London University and is an acknowledged expert on fuels.

The Army Council is advised in matters of policy regarding the College by an Advisory Council of distinguished civilians drawn from the universities, and from industry together with certain high ranking officers and ex-officers from the War Office and Ministry of Supply. The

chairman is Sir Henry Tizard, who is also chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee of the Ministry of Defence and a scientist of international repute.

The results of the first efforts of this Army university, which is only two years old, and thus in its extreme infancy, are encouraging and reveal that its work appears to be on the right lines. The first young officers still have a year of their course to go before graduating for their Bachelor of Science degrees. But the first year examinations showed results comparing favourably with those of the old established universities of Britain.

The graduates of the first technical Staff Course have already been assigned to their first appointments as technical staff officers. The College authorities are confident that they have done what they were required to do but experience alone can show whether the requirement was correct. Doubtless the curriculum will be streamlined and reshaped from year to year, but that is entirely healthy and proper in a live institution.

SOVIET CLAIMS FOOTHOLD IN ETHIOPIA

By WALTER KOLARZ

A SEMI-OFFICIAL Soviet source has triumphantly announced that pro-Soviet tendencies are growing in the heart of Africa, in the independent empire of Ethiopia.

A long report published by the popular Russian magazine, Ogonyok, on the country of Emperor Haile Selassie indirectly confirmed the impression of British colonial experts that Ethiopia has been ear-marked by the Kremlin as the centre of Soviet activities for central and eastern Africa.

The colonial experts have claimed for some time that Soviet propaganda penetrated from Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, into Kenya, Uganda, Somaliland and other African territories.

Ogonyok, which sent a special correspondent to Ethiopia, asserted that "the Ethiopians have extremely warm feelings towards Soviet Russia." Also: "The word Russia is for the Ethiopians tantamount to friendship and mutual respect."

"In Ethiopia," Ogonyok asserted, "people are talking with affection of the land of Socialism which is always championing the cause of peace and security and always defending the freedom and independence of peaceful peoples." Ethiopia is one of the few countries of the world where a Communist party has never come into existence, and Ogonyok did not claim that such a party existed there now.

TWO INSTRUMENTS

Ogonyok indicated, however, that Soviet propaganda in Ethiopia had two other important instruments at its disposal: a permanent Soviet exhibition in the centre of the Ethiopian capital, and the Soviet hospital.

The Ogonyok special correspondent visited the exhibition and recorded a "gigantic interest in what is going on in the far away Soviet land." That applied, in the view of the correspondent, equally to Ethiopian soldiers, peasants, workers and civil servants.

Ogonyok further claimed that the Soviet hospital, to which a polyclinic was attached in 1947, was assuming ever-increasing importance and caring for 2,000 people a month. According to Ogonyok, even Italians gave preference to the Soviet hospital, despite the considerable number of Italian doctors in the country. The Russian doctors in Addis Ababa, Ogonyok stated, did not confine their activities to healing, but also carried out research work and were busy in teaching Ethiopian medical personnel.—United Press.

C.V.R. Thompson Reports The American Scene

NEW YORK.

JUST one town in all America reported today that business had gone up as a result of the nationwide sales with which shops are trying to stave off a great buying slump.

And even in that town—Wilmington, Delaware—just one shop had good news.

That was the 75-year-old department store of Crosby and Hill. Most shops have tried to disguise the reason for their sales—buyers' resistance—with such phrases as "inventory clearance," "inflation price cuts."

But Crosby and Hill published full-page advertisements for what they called their "Cat and Dog" sale. "We are really burned with this junk," they confessed, "please, please take it off our hands."

Sample items: "Ladies' all-wool sweaters—we had the nerve to ask three dollars 95 cents for these once. Well, it didn't hurt to ask, odd lot of shower curtains—and brother, we really mean odd; printed rayon Jersey—make yourself Miss Sad Sack of 1949 and six billious patterns to choose from."

Result: Crosby and Hill's sales rose 40 percent in one day.

THE REAL barometer of American prosperity, said Stanton Sanson, a Pennsylvania hosiery manufacturer, is the American woman's leg. Said he: "As the average American bank roll gets thicker the nylons of the average American woman get thinner."

Today's barometer reading—nylons—are so thin you have to look twice to make sure they really are stockings.

WASHINGTON is writing letters to the Board of Trade asking them to bring out a Do and Don't for British businessmen visiting America for the first time. Suggested sample in the Don't column—Don't leave your boots outside your hotel room; they won't get polished and may get stolen.

THE PEOPLE of Three Rivers, Texas, are feeling foolish. They refused a rebuttal for Felix Longoria, a hero of the Pacific war, in their cemetery because he was of Mexican origin, and in Texas they look upon Mexicans as some other Americans look upon Negroes.

Then Washington announced that Longoria's national cemetery and with full military honours.

SHOW BUSINESS. Broadway is planning to put on a British-style pantomime next Christmas with Gertrude Lawrence as principal boy. . . . Ben Hecht has gone quietly back to film writing—for Samuel Goldwyn this time. . . . Hollywood hopes to make Brian Roper, a 15-year-old English actor, a "Juvenile James Mason," halfway between Mickey Rooney and Freddie Bartholomew. . . . George Sanders, who is planning to become an American citizen, told columnist Leonard Lyons that he "cannot wait" to see England again. . . . Dorothy Parker, America's greatest wit, is wiring all her friends "from Hollywood this wisecrack: 'Working on a new script entitled Lassie get down.'"

NANCY Signed



By Ernie Bushmiller



FOR YOUR SPARE MOMENTS

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Peculiar Defence Defeats Contract

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

In everyday life we often run into situations that are a little irregular or out of the ordinary. That happens too in the game of bridge, and, as in the game of life, we must meet the situation that confronts us.

Today's hand was given to me by Watson B. Miller, U.S. Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization. The hand came up on one of his trips to the west coast. He made a peculiar play to defeat the contract, and he wanted to know if his play was right.

The irregularity on this hand is that North and South should have

♠ 754
 ♥ AK 10 8 6 2
 ♦ 73
 ♣ 52

Watson Miller

♠ Q3
 ♥ Q3
 ♦ K Q J 10
 ♣ J 10 4

W E
 S
 Dealer

♠ 10 8 6 2
 ♥ J 9 7
 ♦ 8 5 4
 ♣ Q 10 7

♠ AK J 6
 ♥ 5 4
 ♦ A 10 2
 ♣ AK 8 3

Rubber-Neither vul.

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 N.T.	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening-♦ K

6

POCKET CARTOON



Red Army's Celebrations Boycotted

West Military Chiefs "Unable To Attend"

Berlin, Feb. 23.—The Western Military Governors in Germany were "unable to attend" today's Berlin Army's 31st anniversary, marked through the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe by the traditional parades and demonstrations.

The top-ranking American, British and French Commanders have received invitations to a reception this evening at the residence of the Soviet Military Governor, Marshal Sokolovsky. The three Western Military Governors will be represented by their deputies.

West Sector Berlin police riot squads stood by this morning near the Soviet Memorial, just inside the British Sector, ready to prevent possible incidents.

MEMORIAL PARADE

At 10.15 a.m. (local time) a column of 100 smartly dressed uniformed Soviet officers, all armed with revolvers, marched up to the Unter Den Linden, through the Brandenburg Gate on the sector boundary, to the big white War Memorial.

With them were 20 Russian women. The party had two wreaths, broke ranks, and walked in small groups back to the Soviet Sector.

A British spokesman said the Russians had not told the British they would parade into their Sector today, but no protest would be made since it is an established custom for Soviet soldiers to parade at the Memorial.

The Moscow Radio today broadcast an Order of the Day by Marshal Nikolai Bulganin, Soviet Armed Forces Minister, calling for a "high standard of military preparedness to be constantly maintained."

PRAYDA COMMENT

In an editorial on the anniversary, the Soviet Communist Party paper, Pravda, said that while the Soviet Union was successfully carrying out the post-war five-year plan, in the camp of the "imperialist instigators of a new war, we hear a demonstrative rattling of sabres."

A Warsaw report from Tass, official Soviet news agency, said that Marshal of the Soviet Union Konstantin Rokossovsky declared at a ceremonial meeting in the Polish capital that the "comradely relations of the Soviet and Polish armies, born of the second World War, will be as eternal as is the growing friendship of the Polish and Soviet peoples."

The meeting, which was attended by the Polish President, Premier and Cabinet Ministers, sent a message of greetings to Generalissimo Stalin and Marshal Bulganin.

Tass reported from Prague that meetings of public bodies, attended by members of the Czechoslovak Government, political leaders, and Service Chiefs, were held in the Czech capital and in most of the country's large towns.—Reuter.

'QUAKE RECORDED

Western, Mass. February 23.—A strong earthquake was recorded at Boston College Seismological station on Wednesday at 4.23 p.m. GMT. Distance 5,000 miles; direction not clear.—Associated Press.

FINNISH GOVERNMENT ONLY JUST AVOIDS DEFEAT

Confidence Motion Won By Two Votes

Helsinki, Feb. 23.—Finland's Social Democrat Government, defeated on one vote of confidence, succeeded in remaining in power tonight by narrowly winning a second confidence motion soon afterwards. In the second poll, it attained the constitutionally stipulated two-vote majority, the figures being 97 to 95.

The votes came during a heated 30-hour debate, starting yesterday, on the agrarian policy. The first vote, according to Helsinki Radio, showed 97-96 for the Government but on a recount the voting was 97-97. The issue was settled by drawing lots which went against the Government. When the debate was continued a second vote of confidence was taken and this time the Government secured the necessary majority.

Lifting Of Berlin Blockade

Russians Putting Out Feelers

Berlin, Feb. 23.—Hints that the Soviet Union is prepared to negotiate for the raising of the Berlin "blockade" were recently given to junior Western officials by members of the Polish Military Mission here, a high official of the British Military Government said today.

He said the hints were given earlier this month by the Poles in "very inexpert" approaches made within a space of 48 hours to 14 different junior officials among the Western Powers.

The British official said that he did not think the Russians could stand the "loss of face" involved in calling off the blockade with nothing to show for it.

He said the Western attitude remained the same—no negotiation until the blockade is lifted. In the meantime, the airlift, now in its eighth month, would be continued as long as needed.

The British official said that responsible British observers in Berlin did not expect the Russians to "do a Korea" and declared their willingness to remove their occupying troops if the other three occupying powers did likewise.

THREE ARGUMENTS

The reasons given were: (1) This move did not work in Korea, where the Americans refused to withdraw at the same time as the Russians. (2) The Communist-led Socialist Unity Party would not be able to win control in Western Germany, which had shown its anti-Communist sentiments in repeated elections. (3) "The much publicised 'People's Police' in the Soviet Zone was not nearly strong enough to impose Communism by force."

According to the best British information this force was badly led, badly armed and numbered less than 50,000. Estimates from other Allied and German sources in the past few months had ranged as high as 40,000.

Responsible Western observers had been little impressed by frequent calls by pro-Soviet politicians for a re-unification of Germany and an Allied withdrawal from the Soviet Zone.

They regarded this campaign as a "desperate bid" for German nationalist support at a time when Western Germany was making rapid strides toward economic recovery and political self-government.

They did not think it foreshadowed any concrete move by the Soviet Union.—Reuter.

The Agrarian Party, which won the general elections last July, had asked the Government if "it is aware that low fixed prices of farm produce, marketing difficulties, increased production costs and high taxation, have made the position of farmers and especially smallholders, untenable?"

Parliament was asked to vote at the same time on a Conservative motion of confidence in the Government. The result, after automatic voting, was 96 for the Agrarian motion and 95 for the Conservative motion. Nine members abstained.

MECHANICAL VOTING

In mechanical voting, members press buttons automatically, recording their decisions. The Social Democrats, defeated, called for open voting which gave 97 to 97. Lots were drawn as constitutionally stipulated in case of equal voting and the Government lost. But, as if to insure itself, it had also tabled its own motion of confidence.

It was lost by the mechanical voting, which gave 95 for the Government and 96 for the Agrarian motion. The Social Democrats again demanded open voting, which gave 98 for the Government and 96 against. While the Premier, M. Karl August Fagerholm, and his Cabinet colleagues were congratulating themselves the tellers announced that a Communist member had given in two slips.

The Communist member denied this and the People's Democratic Party wanted the matter referred to the Constitutional Committee. The People's Democrats—merger of Communists and left wing Socialists—came third in the elections last July after the Agrarians, who won, and the Social Democrats, who came second.

Parliament refused to refer the matter to the Committee. A number of People's Democrats then left the House as a protest, saying the Government had retained power by a trick.

TO FORM NEW GOVT.

M. Fagerholm was reported to have told his party members privately after the debate that he would shortly form a Coalition Government because of the narrow victory. Usually well informed sources said he had decided during the Scandinavian military alliance discussions to form a Coalition if these talks should fail and if Norway should decide to join the proposed Atlantic Pact, with consequent diplomatic tension in Scandinavia and Finland.

The Social Democratic Government was formed last July despite claims for five Ministerial posts by the People's Democrats. It was soon bitterly attacked by the People's Democrats and the Soviet press.

In December, the Soviet Legation in Helsinki warned Finland that "propaganda hostile to the Soviet Union is being carried out by irresponsible elements."

The note caused real concern to Finnish politicians.—Reuter.

Court Vindicates Doctors

Paris, Feb. 23.—A French court ruled today that three doctors did not violate the rights of their patient when they injected him with truth serum to get him to admit he was feigning loss of speech.

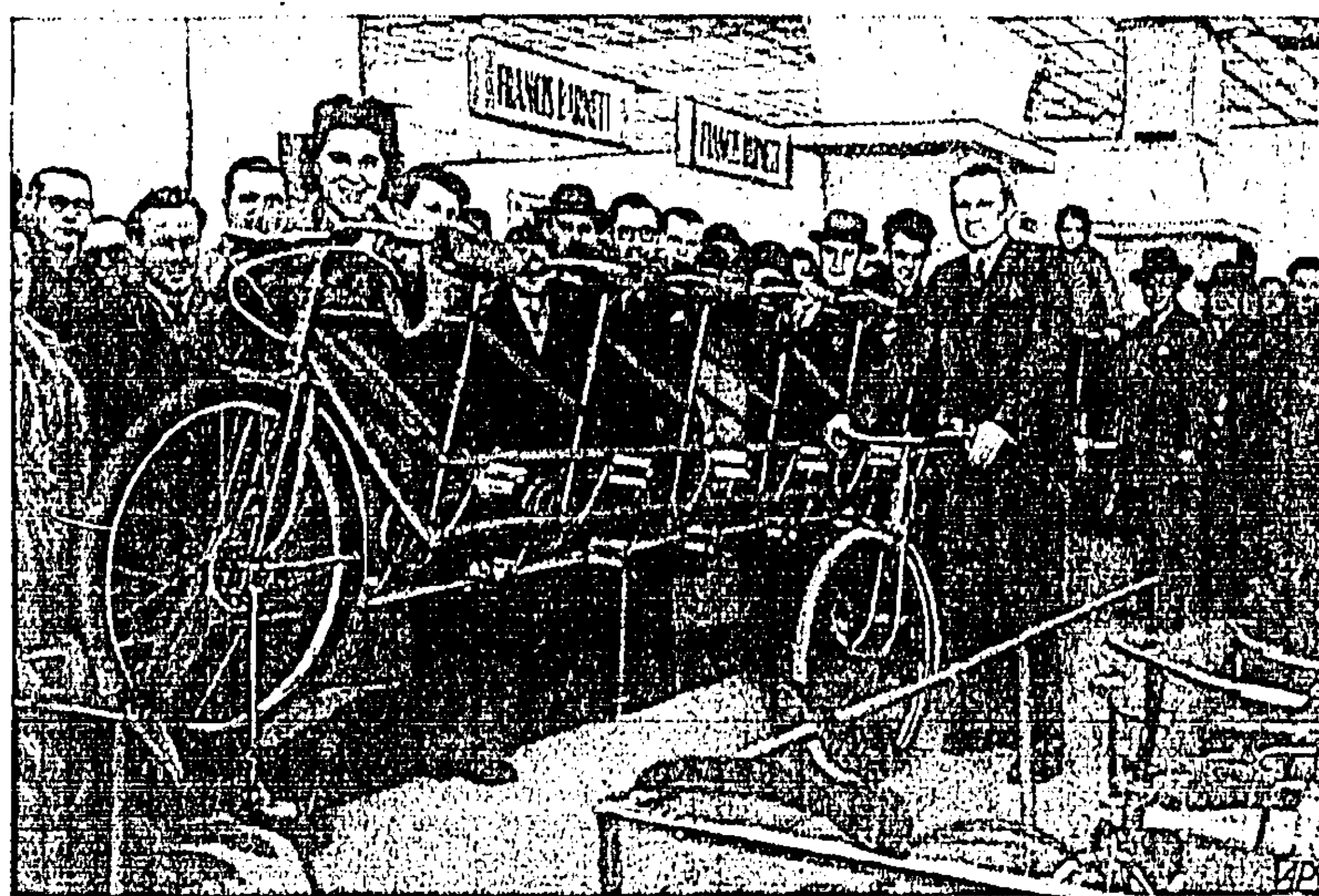
The court dismissed the damaged suit brought by Henri Cens against the doctors and directed him to pay court costs.

The doctors said they used the drug only to discover that Cens had feigned dumbness long after a bullet wound in his head had healed.—United Press.

Quest Continues For A National Anthem

Karachi, Feb. 23.—Pakistan Government officials, unable to decide on a choice of words and a tune for the Dominion's National Anthem despite long listening to the contributions of singer, poets and musicians, have now handed over the task to a committee of Members of Parliament.

Asked in the Assembly today if this committee included a musician of repute, Minister of the Interior, Mr. Khawaja Shahnawaz, reassured the House with: "Yes, the Honourable the Minister for Food."—Reuter.



The old-time "Bicycle Built For Two" was a toy compared with this Belgian model made to carry ten persons or a weight of 2,204 pounds. The wheels, shown at the Brussels Motorcycle and Cycle Show will have special heavyweight tires for the road.

CANDIDATES FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Mrs Roosevelt Is Included

Oslo, Feb. 23.—General Juan Peron, the Argentine President, his former film star wife, Eva, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of the late President Roosevelt, were among 23 candidates for the Nobel Prize for 1949, published here today.

Six societies as well as the 23 individuals were included in the 1949 list of candidates. The other names were Dr. Karl Renner, the Austrian President; Sir John Boyd Orr, former Director of the World Food and Agricultural Association and at present Chancellor of Glasgow University; Mr. Drew Pearson, the United States columnist; Dr. Raphael E. G. Armatte, the Irish peace writer and Director of the Lomshie Research Centre in Andriopolis and Human Biology, Londonderry; M. Louis de Broquerre, President of the Belgian Socialist Party; Senor Antonio Banchas de Bustamante Y Sirven, Cuban expert on international law; Professor Felix Cogan, French jurist, President of the Council of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers; Count Richard Nicholas Coudenhove-Kalergi, founder and President of the Pan-European Union; Secretary General to the Committee of the European Parliamentary Union; Dr. J. Gustavo Guerrero, Salvadoran jurist and diplomat, President of the Permanent Court of International Justice; Major General Frank T. McCoy, Chairman of the Far Eastern Commission; Eduard Milhaud, French social economist, Director of Unemployment Services of the International Labour Bureau.

OTHER NOMINATIONS

Others included were Don Jorge Hernandez Lille, Secretary, the Chilean friend of peace; Maria Montessori, the Italian education expert; M. Theodore Rysen, French expert on international law; Professor Georges Scelle, member of the Faculty of Law, Paris University; and member of the International Law Commission; Don Miguel Tocornal, Chilean politician and expert on international law; M. Johannes Ude, Austrian theologian; Mr. Marcus Wald, South African rabbi; M. Raoul Wallenberg, former secretary of the Swedish Legation in Budapest, who disappeared when the Red Army entered the city (the Russians have denied that they are holding him); M. Hans Wehrberg, German friend of peace.—Reuter.

1,200 DPs Reach Canada

Halifax, Feb. 23.—Despite heavy Atlantic gales, the liner "Samaria," carrying 1,200 displaced persons to Canada, docked here today.

The liner was held back two days by heavy seas.

Aboard was eight-year-old Asuma Levaldis, the 50,000th person to be admitted to this country under the International Refugee Organisation.

Also aboard were the first Dutch immigrants to Nova Scotia this year as farm workers. Most of the displaced persons will be sent to jobs in Ontario and Western Canada.—United Press.

BIG MILITARY MANOEUVRES

Istanbul, Feb. 23.—The Turkish armed forces today began large-scale land, air and sea manoeuvres in and on both banks of the Bosphorus near the entrance to the Black Sea, designed to test their ability to repel any attack from the Black Sea.

The heads of the United States Aid Mission to Turkey and a number of American observers and experts followed the manoeuvres. Camouflaged anti-aircraft guns were sited at strategic points on the coast and motorised units gave support.—Reuter.

Bulgaria Accused Of "Blatant Terrorism"

STRONGLY WORDED U.S. NOTE

Washington, Feb. 23.—The United States has accused Bulgaria of "blatant terrorism" in the arrest of 15 Protestant pastors on charges of espionage and treason, the State Department disclosed today.

The American charge was contained in a note which, according to the Department spokesman, was rejected by the Bulgarian Government "about 30 minutes" after it was handed to the Bulgarian Foreign Office.

The spokesman said that the note, which was delivered in Sofia last Monday, described the charges against the pastors as "unfounded and ludicrous." It said the U.S. Government considered the charges a "blatant, terroristic effort in cynical disregard of facts, designed to intimidate small, respected Protestant religious denominations in Bulgaria and discredit their sincere religious leaders."

The spokesman said, "The Bulgarians had the note about 30 minutes when the United States Second Legation Secretary, Raymond Finley Courtney was called to the Foreign Office and the note handed back to him. Courtney was informed that the Bulgarian Government rejected the United States' representations."

LUDICROUS CHARGES

The 15 pastors were arrested on February 5 on charges of espionage, treason and black market currency operations, involving former attaches of the U.S. Legation in Sofia.

The American note said: "On instructions from my government, I have the honour to refer to a published indictment against 15 Protestant pastors in Bulgaria who are charged with 'espionage, treason and currency operations' involving United States Government officials formerly on duty in Bulgaria. Such charges are unfounded and ludicrous. My government can only consider their formulation a blatant terroristic effort in cynical disregard of facts, designed to intimidate small, respected Protestant religious denominations in Bulgaria and discredit their sincere religious leaders. In the circumstances, my government reserves its rights under the treaty of peace with Bulgaria and requests that facilities be made available for representatives of the United States Legation to attend the trial."—United Press.

Colombo, Feb. 23.—The appointment of Lord Soulbury as the new Governor General of Ceylon was welcomed here today as a "popular choice" in view of his close association with the island's independence.

The Ceylon Daily News said: "It was well welcomed by the many friends whom he made during his stay in Ceylon as Chairman of the Reforms Commission and by all who are able to appreciate his share in planning the epoch-making constitutional changes which will be known to history by his name."

Lord Soulbury, whose appointment was officially announced in London yesterday, will succeed the present Governor General, Sir Henry Mookerjee, towards the end of the year.—Reuter.

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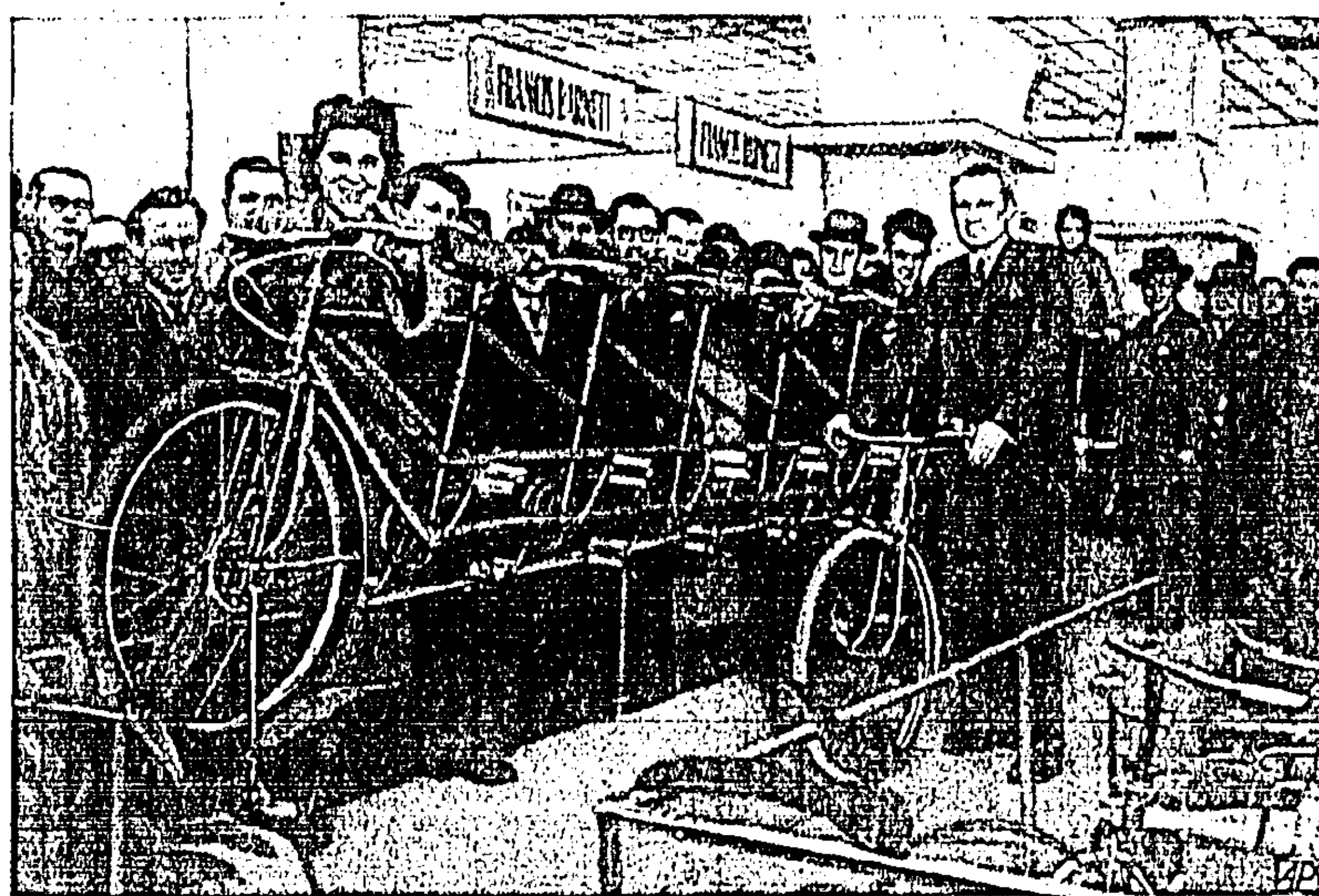
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Bicycle Built For Ten



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BAO DAI

Bao Dai To Return To Indo-China Next Month

TERMS OF AGREEMENT WITH FRENCH GOVT.

Paris, Feb. 23.—The French Government, after several years of negotiation, has reached agreement with Bao Dai, ex-Emperor of Annam, and he will go back to Indo-China before the end of March, according to a joint communique issued today by the French Premier's Office and by the Cabinet of the ex-Emperor in Paris.

The agreement will be confirmed by an exchange of letters shortly, it was learned from the Ministry of Overseas Territories. It was reached at a luncheon yesterday given by the ex-Emperor to the French Minister for Overseas Territories, M. Paul Coste Floret, who gave details to the French Cabinet today. The terms of the agreement are being kept secret for the time being but will be submitted to the National Assembly on March 11, which date has been fixed for a debate on Indo-China. This debate is intended to end with a vote ratifying the terms of the agreement, and in particular recording the assent of Parliament to rescinding old French treaty rights in Indo-China—the "rice-bowl" of Vietnam State.

Despite the official agreement, some matters remain to be settled between the French Government and Bao Dai. According to usually reliable sources, one of the points of the agreement is French assent to let Cochinchina be included in the Vietnam Republic "if the Cochinchina population opts for this union."

"This, it has always been foreseen in the long drawn out negotiations is to be settled by a referendum. But it is not clear at present whether the ex-Emperor is prepared to return to Indo-China before this referendum has been held."

UNOFFICIAL FORECAST

If, as the French Minister of Overseas Territories said today, the ex-Emperor will return to Indo-China before the end of March, it seems that he will return before the referendum can be organized. But an official attached to the ex-Emperor has not prepared to commit himself on this point in Paris today.

At the same time this official said he was optimistic about reaching an agreement on all outstanding points of procedure, which apparently include the exact date of the ex-Emperor's return.

According to unofficial reports, the agreement with the ex-Emperor provides for:

- 1.—Freedom for Cochinchina to opt for unity with the Vietnam Republic.
- 2.—Full administrative autonomy for the Vietnam Republic.
- 3.—The constitution of a Vietnam Army.
- 4.—The appointment of Vietnam diplomatic agents in the countries of South East Asia.
- 5.—Military bases for the French Union in Vietnam controlled by the French General Staff.
- 6.—Representatives of Vietnam in the Assembly of the French Union—the "Parliament" of the French Empire which meets in Versailles and whose elected deputies represent all French overseas territories.

According to the same unofficial reports, economic questions remain to be settled. These include the control of the customs and of issuing the currency.

DR HO'S POSITION

French policy is based on the expectation that with the ex-Emperor assuming the role of head of the Vietnam Republic, including Cochinchina, with a very large measure of self-government and independence within the framework of the French Union, the big majority of the population will rally to this regime and will thus enable the Vietnam Government itself to pacify the country and break the power of the Nationalist partisans led by Moscow-trained Dr Ho Chi-minh. (Continued on Page 5)

PALESTINE ARMISTICE IS SIGNED

Rhodes, Feb. 24.—The following general armistice agreement between Egypt and Israel was signed here today:

"The parties to the present agreement, responding to the Security Council resolution of November 16, 1948, calling upon them as a further provisional measure under Article 40 of the Charter of the United Nations and in order to facilitate the transition from the present truce to permanent peace in Palestine to negotiate an armistice. Having decided to enter into negotiations under United Nations chairmanship concerning the implementation of the Security Council resolution of November 4 and 16, 1948:

"And having appointed representatives to negotiate and conclude an armistice agreement.

THE PROVISIONS

"The undersigned representatives in the full authority entrusted to them by their respective governments have agreed upon the following provisions:

"Article 2. With a view to procuring the return of permanent peace in Palestine and in recognition of the impotence in this regard of mutual assurances concerning the future military operations of the parties, the following principles which shall be fully observed by both parties during the armistice are hereby affirmed:

1. "The injunction of the Security Council against resort to military force in settlement of the Palestine question shall henceforth be scrupulously respected by both parties."
2. "No aggressive action by the armed forces by land, sea or air on either party shall be undertaken, planned or threatened against the people or the armed forces of the other."
3. "It being understood that the use of the term 'planned' in this context had no bearing on normal staff planning as generally practised in military organisations."—Reuter.

House Of Lords Anxious About Situation In Malaya

MINISTER OF STATE OFFERS REASSURANCES

London, Feb. 23.—Lord Listowel, Minister of State for the Colonies, gave an assurance tonight that the total strength of the British forces in Malaya would not be reduced. Replying to a House of Lords debate on terrorist activities in Malaya, he said that he did not agree that the position there was worsening.

The High Commissioner considered that further military reinforcements were not at present required. He regarded the co-operation of the Chinese as the most important immediate step.

A British Government contribution to the "extremely heavy cost" of security in Malaya was being considered very carefully with full realisation of its weight and importance to Malaya, he added.

Viscount Ellbank, Conservative, who opened the debate, said conditions in Malaya had deteriorated. One reason was, probably, the Communist army's advance in China. "There is little doubt that the success of the Communists in China will have its repercussions throughout the Far East."

"These repercussions Malaya is hardly likely to escape," he said. It was exceedingly fortunate that the Dutch had included their own problems in Indonesia with determination, since the proximity of Sumatra to the Malayan coast was a matter of constant danger.

MORE TROOPS NEEDED

Lord Ellbank suggested that armed patrol motor launches should be obtained to guard the west coast of Malaya from infiltration by canoe or other means of terrorists and suspects from Sumatra. Each launch should be fitted with a small gun and a small searchlight and should have a well armed crew recruited, he suggested, from the Malayan police.

More troops were needed than were available, he said. He was advised of the serious shortages of experienced police officers for the newly recruited police and special constabulary.

It was also alleged that many of the British sergeants sent out had proved to be very raw material, he said. He suggested much more should be done to make use of picked Malaya and other local material to provide leadership for that constabulary.

"The Malays have behaved splendidly throughout, recognising it is their own fortune which is at stake," he added. "In spite of almost daily murders of Europeans, morale was wonderful but the strain fearful."

Urging the use of strong measures to deal with the situation, Lord Ellbank said: "Our whole position and prestige in the Far East are at stake."

OBSCURE SITUATION

Lord Mancroft, Conservative, said: "It is not clear what is happening in Malaya at present, except that we are not winning." He hoped the Minister would contradict the "widespread rumour" that the Brigade of Guards was to be brought back to Britain in April. There was too much about administration in Malaya, he said. The police, instead of fighting the bandits, were checking up dog licences. "We are losing rubber at the rate of 10,000 tons a month at a loss of US\$4,000,000 a month," he said. "It is costing us £25,000 a day to fight this battle in Malaya," he added.

Lord Airlie, non-party Peer, said: "We are making very little, if any, headway in Malaya." Planters generally believed it was no longer a military problem. An entirely new approach to the situation was needed, cutting off from the terrorists supplies and information about British troops.

One plantation manager had written him saying many rich Chinese did not think the British

planters would be able to go on. They were sitting waiting to buy up plantations for a song when the British planters left.

LISTOWEL REPLIES

Lord Listowel, Minister of State for the Colonies, replied for the Government. About the future of the Guards Brigade, he said it was undesirable to divulge the disposition or movement of British troops overseas but could give an assurance that the total strength of the British forces in Malaya would not be reduced.

"The High Commissioner takes the view that further military reinforcements are not at present required. He regards the co-operation of the Chinese as being the most important immediate step," Lord Listowel said.

Production was not falling. Figures showed that the monthly output of rubber and tin increased in 1948 as compared with 1947. A contribution by the British Government to the extremely heavy cost of the security measures in Malaya was being considered very carefully and with a full realisation of its weight and importance to Malaya.

Lord Listowel did not agree that the general situation in Malaya was worsening. Though the situation was still serious, there were some encouraging features. The number of bandits' attacks had steadily fallen from the peak of 278 in November to 232 in December and 198 in January.

FEWER MURDERS

Murder of civilians of all races had dropped from an average of 48 a month in the period June to December last year to 31 in January. After a special tribute to the Malayan police, Lord Listowel said police arms, wireless and transport equipment were being brought up to the most modern standard as rapidly as possible.

One of the most satisfactory features was that the authorities were now getting word more often of the bandits' movements and plans. This enabled swift counter-action to be taken.

Two thousand Gurkha troops would shortly arrive in Malaya to reinforce those already there. In the week ended February 10 thirty-two enemy camps and in the week ended February 17 sixteen camps were located and destroyed. The Navy and Air Force had given valuable assistance by preventing the possibility of Communist reinforcements reaching Malaya. "There are signs that the main bandit forces have been unable to continue the fight in some areas," Lord Listowel said.

Two conferences between Siamese and Malayan officials had resulted in a valuable exchange of information and the establishment of co-operation and a joint plan of operation had been carried out during the past fortnight by forces of both countries in the frontier area.

"This marks an important step forward in what we trust will be

Six Killed In Explosion On Junk At Aberdeen

Six Chinese were killed and three injured in an explosion aboard a fishing junk at Aberdeen early this morning.

The cause of the explosion is unknown, but the junk is believed to have had on board a large quantity of detonators and dynamite.

The explosion occurred at 6.15 a.m. when the junk, No. 1470a, was lying alongside the wharf opposite the Tai Shing paper factory in Island Road.

The three survivors—Chau Fat Lee, 51-year-old master of the junk, his son and daughter-in-law—were taken to Queen Mary Hospital.

The bodies of Chau's wife, a foki, and his four grandchildren, were later recovered from the water near the junk.

Junk No. 4657a, lying nearby, was damaged in the explosion, but there were no casualties among the occupants. A man walking along the wharf at the time had part of his hand blown off.

HONGKONG PLANE DISASTER

Machine Crashes Into Hillside SEVEN BODIES RECOVERED

A Cathay Pacific Airways C47 Dakota, carrying an unknown number of passengers from Manila, crashed into the hillside above King's Road, near Shaukwan, about noon today.

So far seven bodies have been recovered, but reporters are being kept away from the scene, and up to the time of going to press information about the disaster was meagre.

The plane, which was expected to arrive from Manila this morning, reached the Colony about 11.30 and requested permission to land on one of the Kai Tak runways.

The request was granted by the control tower, but soon afterwards another signal was received asking to be allowed to land on another runway.

This was the last Kai Tak heard from the aircraft.

First report to the police of the disaster came from Mr A. I. Cash, Waterworks Inspector, who reported that he had seen a plane flying low in the area near the reservoir above Health Village (south of the Taikoo Sugar Refinery), then suddenly he heard a crash.

Cathay Pacific while acknowledging that one of their planes was due to arrive from Manila this morning said they did not know how many passengers were aboard as the manifest was on the aircraft.

Wu Teh-chien Off To Nanking

Canton, Feb. 24.—Mr Wu Teh-chien, deputy Premier in the Nationalist Government, left Canton by air this morning for Nanking. It was also announced here that the Finance Minister will this afternoon at a press conference announce the new economic and currency reforms.

STOP PRESS

Plane Crash: No Survivors

Latest reports state that there are no survivors from the CPA Dakota which crashed near Shaukwan this morning.

It has been ascertained that there were 19 passengers and a crew of four aboard.

After the aircraft had hit the hillside it burst into flames and was still ablaze this afternoon.

So far only eight bodies have been recovered.

Cathay Pacific Airways hope to issue an official statement about the disaster early this evening, but they will not release the names of the passengers until the next of kin have been notified.

A second CPA plane also left Manila for Hongkong this morning, but diverted course and landed safely in Canton.

EDITORIAL

Communism In India

IT is not surprising that the Government of India has been forced to take measures against Communist attempts to disrupt the life of the country. Such an attack upon the National Government was to be expected. Before Britain withdrew from control of the sub-continent in favour of the independent states of India and Pakistan, Communism in India was more nationalistic than the nationalists. Now it plots against the Nationalist Government. The pattern is familiar. It has already been seen in action in Burma, where the National Government formed originally by Aung San on pronounced nationalist and "Left" lines, was promptly assailed by force of arms. In India conditions are more stable and arms less easily come by, so the challenge to the freely-elected authority has been slower in reaching fruition, but the aim remains constant. It is to create that chaos in which starving people can be induced to embrace Communism, or at least to abstain from active opposition because they have been reduced to such straits that any change must be regarded as holding hopes for improvement. The timing of the Communist campaign in India betrays careful planning. It is reported to have been intended to open with an attack on the transport system on March 6, with sabotage to reinforce a strike. In a country like India where there are always areas on the verge of grave food shortages, if not famine, transport is of very special importance to the public. It is one weapon by which the Government can meet

such local hardship and prevent it from turning into disaster. In recent months the Government of India has been working hard on plans to bring about a big increase in food production. In order to provide more food for the people the Government has been considering various large schemes of irrigation and mechanical cultivation to increase acreage under food crops and yield from agricultural land. It is true that it will be years before any projects undertaken now can make a real contribution to the well-being of the Indian peoples; but the fact that the National Government showed clearly it appreciated that greater production was a real problem, was a danger signal to the Communists. Any increase in standards of living would automatically reduce their hopes of achieving power. So it is not without reason that they should have planned to strike before steps to that end could be implemented. If the prompt action of the Indian Government brings the present plot to nothing there is no telling what form the next Communist attempt may take. It might easily be in the form of stimulation of communal strife. There is nothing unusual about Communist intervention in racial or religious differences so long as such intervention seems likely to produce disruption. India would not be the first country in which Communists have wooed believers in "racial" faith in the confidence that the disruption they would be able to encourage would so weaken the country that their self-appointed task of securing domination would be made easier.

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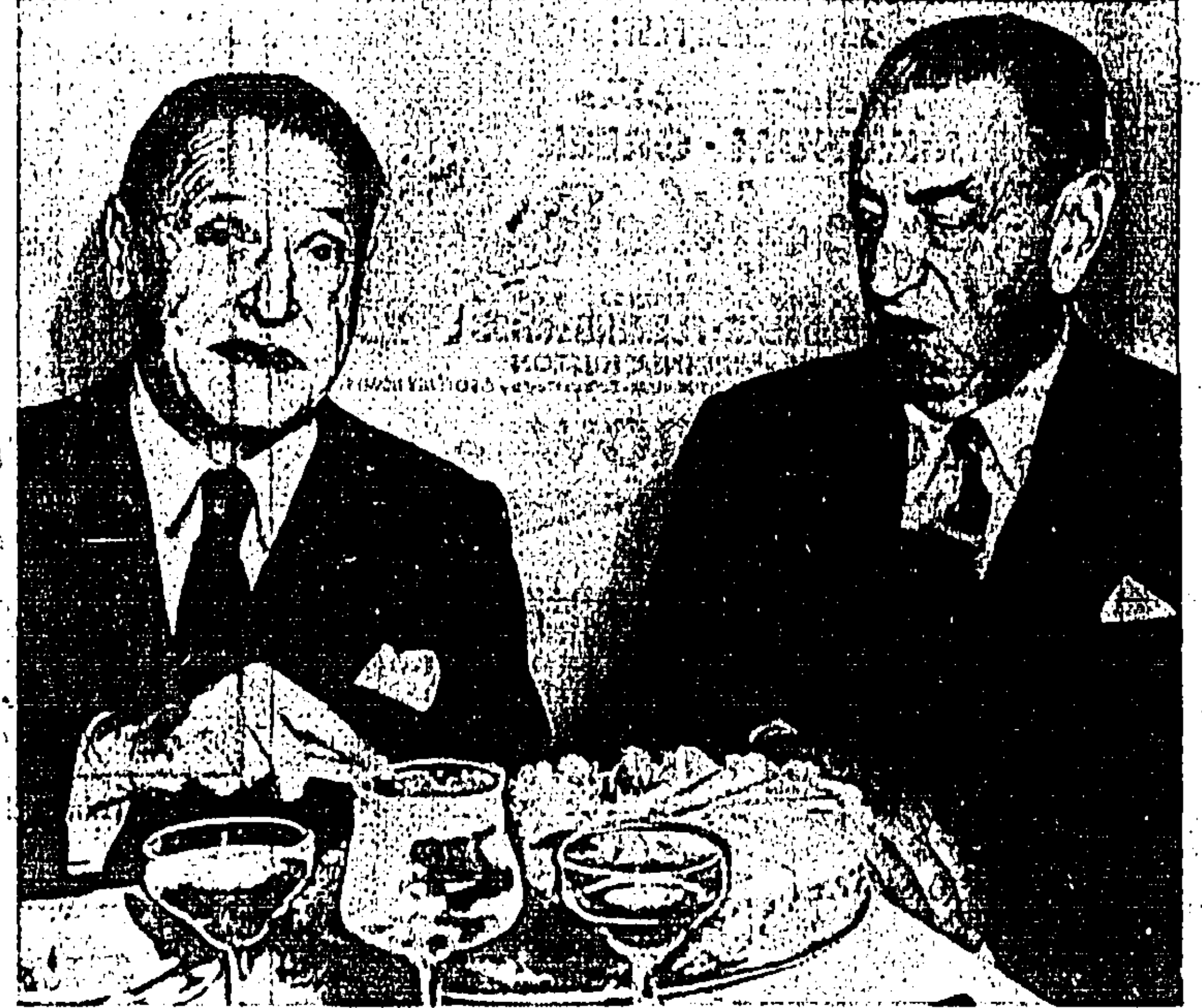
WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



HAPPY DAYS?—Mary Janet Mueller can't quite make up her mind whether or not she is happy with her new found friends in St. Louis. The Sicilian donkey, left, and the St. Bernard dog became friendly with Mary at the Sportsman's Show.



EARLY DAFFODILS—While other parts of America shiver, this attractive miss in Wilmington, North Carolina, is harvesting daffodils.



THE KNIFE'S EDGE—Noted British author, W. Somerset Maugham, left, cuts a piece of his birthday cake for Bertram E. Alanson in San Francisco. Maugham fulfilled a 25-year-old promise to spend his 75th birthday with Alanson.



COWGIRL QUEEN—Shirley Lucas, chosen queen of the annual Palm Springs, California, World Championship Rodeo, display her talents as a trick rider. All world champions of the cowboy and cowgirl realm gathered at the meet to defend their titles.



EN ROUTE TO CONFERENCE—Time passes quickly at International Field, Miami, as delegates en route to the Eucharistic Congress of the Roman Catholic Church converse in a light mood. Headed for Cali, Colombia, are, left to right, Msgr. William Barry, Miami Beach; Clement Cardinal Micara, Rome; Col. Enrico Ruppen, vice commander of the Swiss Guards at the Vatican, and Msgr. Silvio Romani, professor of canon law at the Vatican.



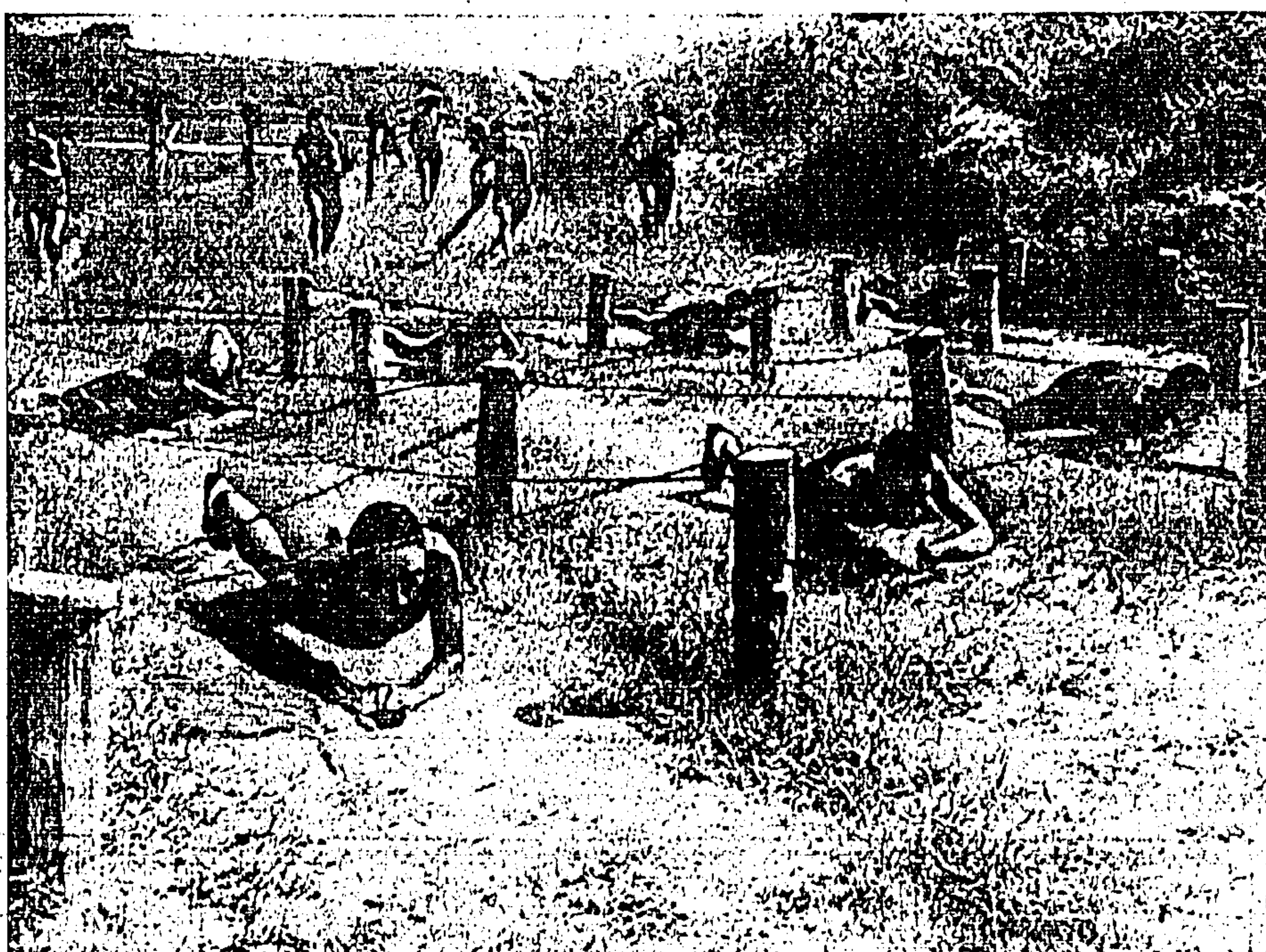
AT THE BEACH—The French bathing suit apparently isn't a French institution. Not according to the way Nevada Smith takes to it on Miami Beach.



WORLD LEADER—A student of the Faenza, Italy, school of ceramics puts models into an oven for drying and hard-baking. The next step is to paint and glaze the urns, plates and figurines which have made the school famous as a world leader in ceramic art.



FOR THE FAMILY ALBUM—Rita Hayworth and her anticipated husband-to-be, Aly Khan, pose at the Cannes chateau of Aly's father. Rita's future mother-in-law is the photographer.



CHINESE TRAINEES—The United States has officially ended the training of Chinese troops, but U.S. methods have left their mark, as can be attested by this obstacle course. Crawling under barbed wire in the sands of Formosa are soldiers of two divisions being trained on the island.

JOAN BLONDELL,

glamorous star says, "Pink lipstick's the Hollywood craze and 'Pink Queen' is the perfect pink."

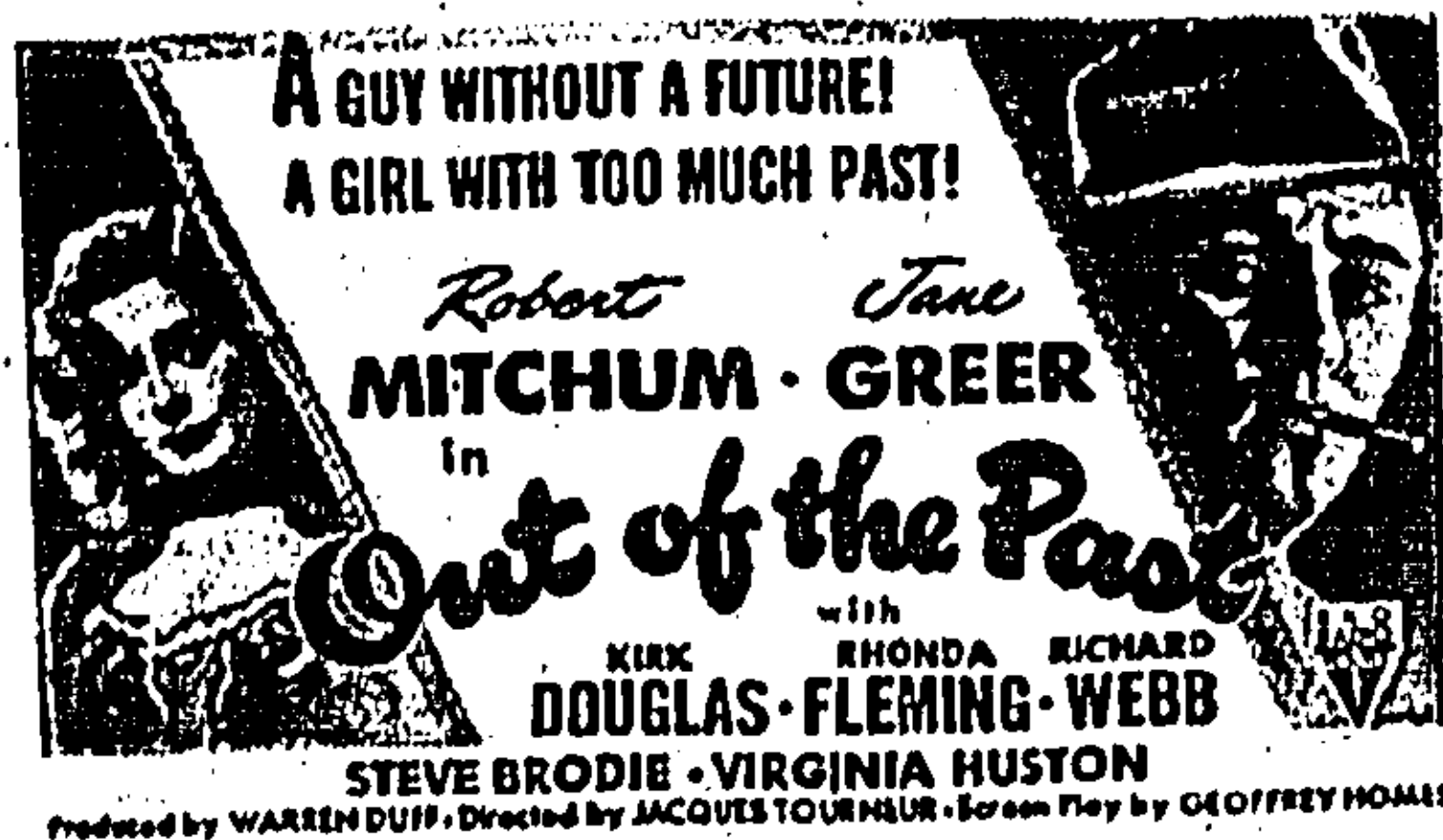


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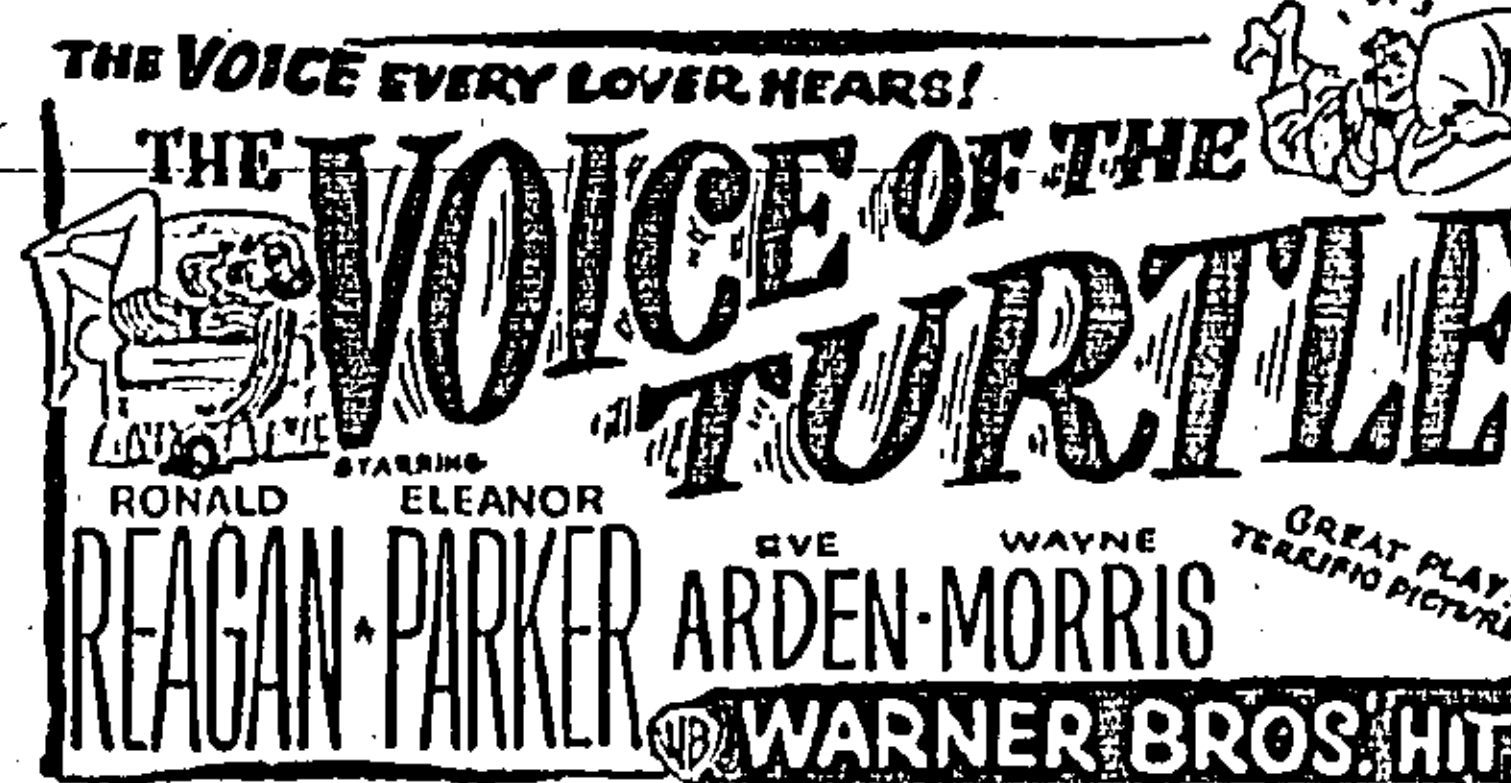


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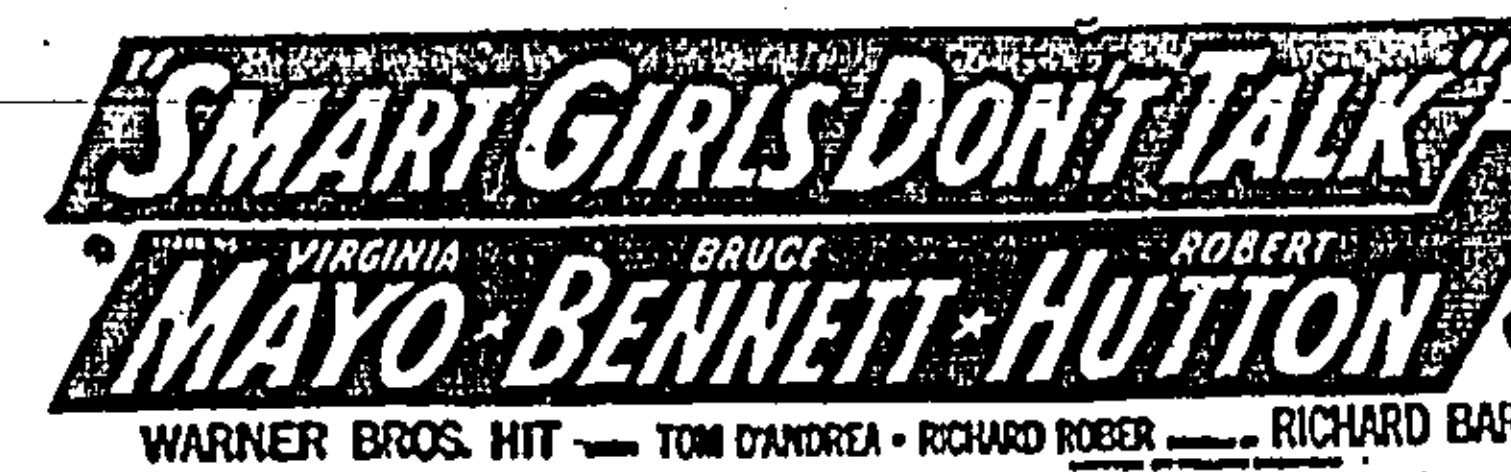
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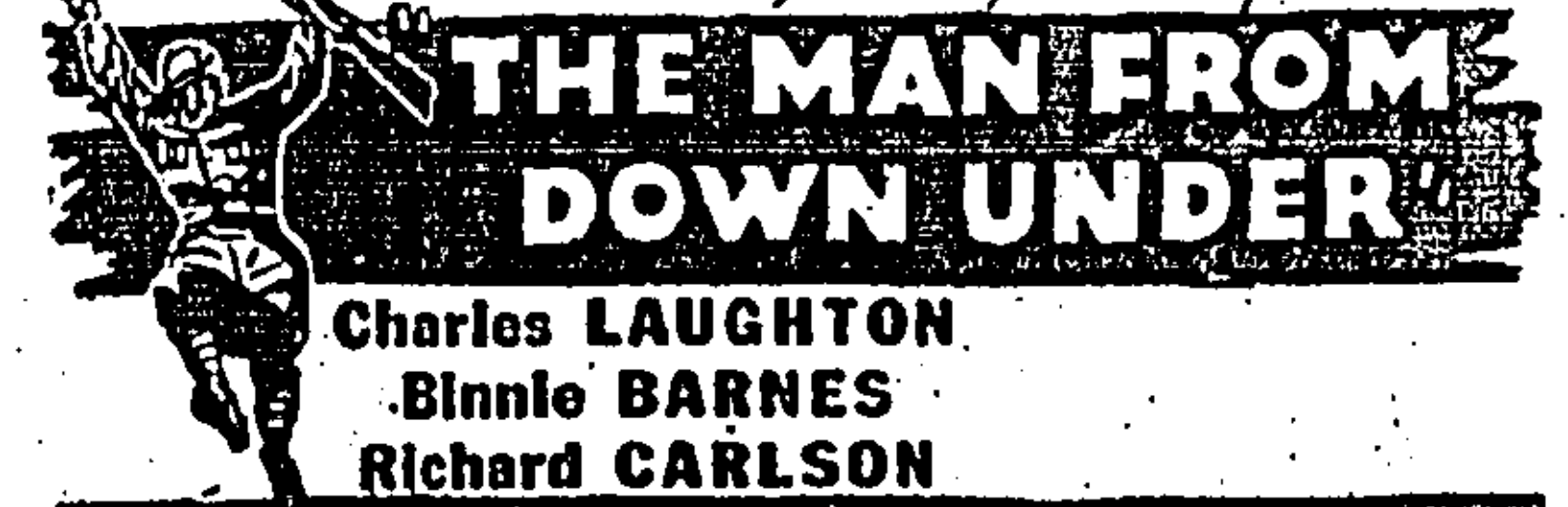


TO-MORROW

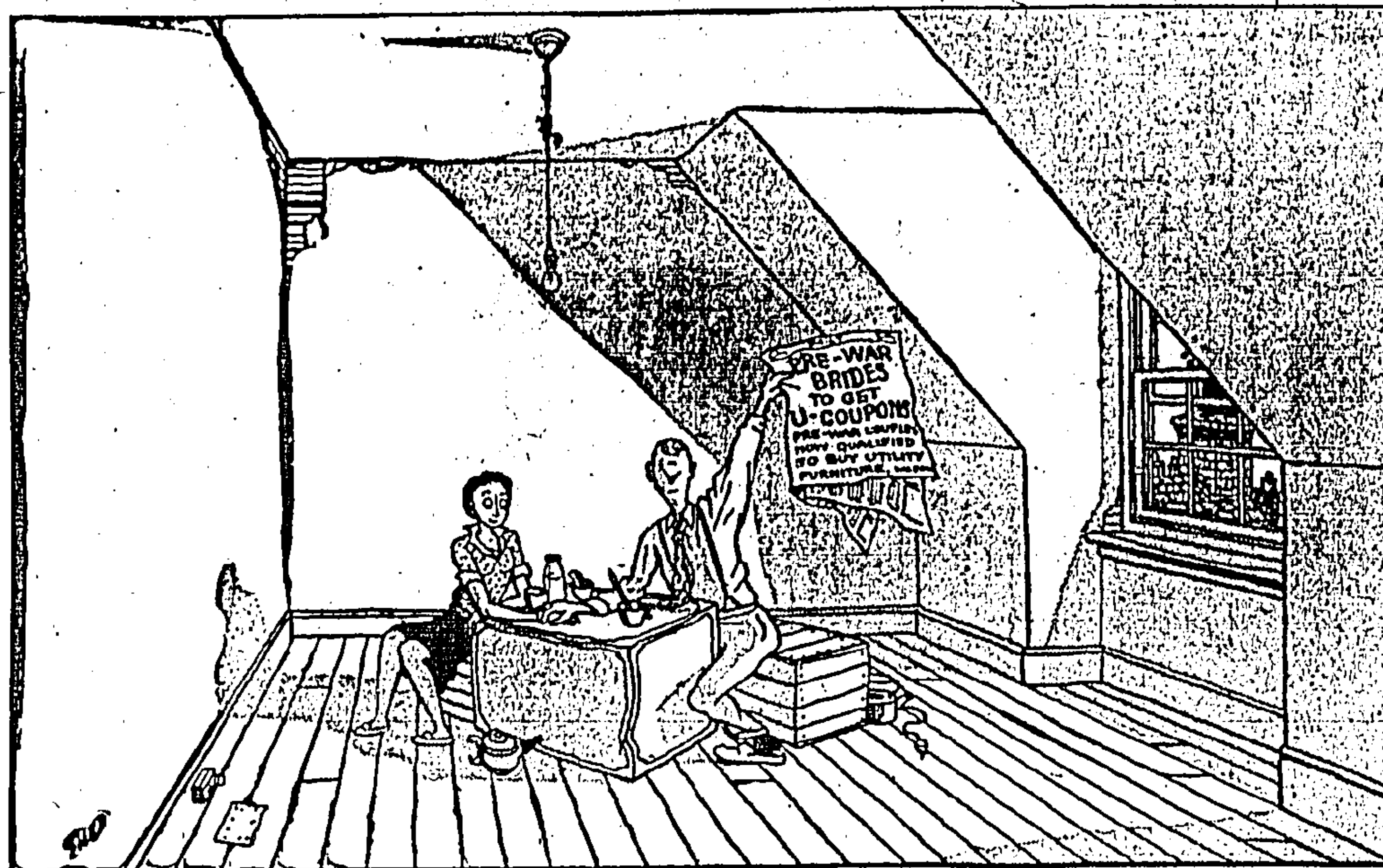
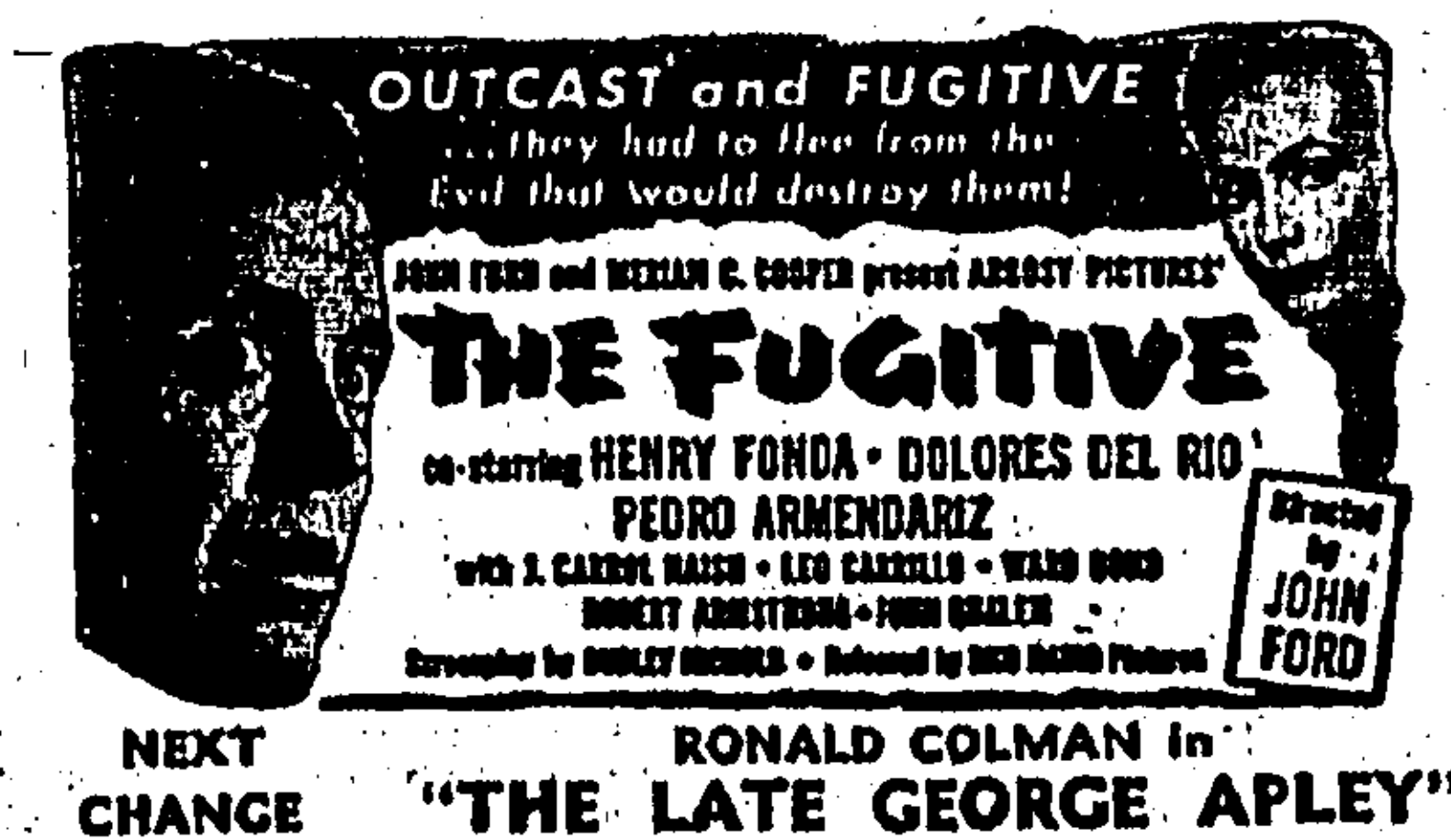
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THE BRITISH ARMY'S OWN UNIVERSITY

ON the wall in the library of Beckett House, Shrivvenham, Berkshire, in southern England, is a plaque bearing these words:—

"Presented by Staff and Faculty of Shrivvenham American University to the British Army in commemoration of the University's residence at Shrivvenham Barracks 1st Aug. to 5th Dec., 1945."

Now, in these same buildings, the British Army has created its own university with a student population of some four hundred officers. This Military College of Science will have the role of educating officers in pure science and technology so that they may be capable of appreciating the scientific and engineering problems in relation to the technological aspects of war. It will also train officers to apply their military knowledge and experience to these problems, so that they may later advise on the design and development of military material.

The College has two major functions. To give a university training in engineering or the natural sciences to young officers who have recently graduated from the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, and also to instruct more senior officers in military technology in order to qualify them for appointments in the Ministry of Supply or as Technical Staff Officers in the Army itself.

The young officers are drawn principally from the Royal Engineers, Royal Corps of Signals and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, and they require a university training in order that they may be fully qualified officers of their respective corps. They include, however, a number of officers from other arms, notably Royal Armoured Corps and Royal Artillery, who have scientific leanings and who are destined in future to take their part in the development of the material of their respective arms.

Annual Intake

THE intake of officers at the Military College is about 90 a year. The course lasts two years, during which the officers take the examinations for the degree of Bachelor of Science, London University.

The second course is the Technical Staff Course, also lasting two years, with an intake of about 75 officers annually. These are selected from all arms of the British and Dominion armies, to whom are added a few officers from the United States Army. The British officers must have a suitable educational background, and must qualify by sitting for an entrance examination. Since the age bracket for the course is 27 to 32, this means that many officers have virtually to return to school in order to prepare themselves for the examination in mathematics and physics.

BY Colonel R.D. Neville, O.B.E.

The first year of the course deals with fundamental science together with instruction in mechanical and electrical engineering. During the second year, the application of engineering theory and practice to weapon technology is taught—using the word "weapon" in its widest sense. This part of the course includes the principles of design. Illustrations of the application of these principles to practice is given by reference to examples of typical equipment, both British and foreign. Graduates are awarded the symbols "P.T.C." which denotes "passed technical staff course."

These officers are intended to be the link between the soldier "user" and the engineer and scientist. They understand the language of both and can use their military experience and engineering knowledge to ensure that the weapons provided for the Army are those which the soldier requires. They will not be limited throughout their service to technical work, but will return to regimental duty from time to time in order not to lose touch with the soldier's point of view. Furthermore the officers are to be considered as equally eligible, with graduates from the Staff College at Camberley, for appointment to War Office and Army staffs, and, in particular, to the higher appointments dealing with weapon development and procurement.

Private Research

IT is important for the academic health of the College, that its activities should not be limited to these two courses. Capacity is reserved for post-graduate studies in specialised subjects, such as telecommunications, which the College is particularly well qualified to teach.

According to university custom in Britain, it is rightly expected that the professional staff should have both time and facilities to pursue private research. Not only are these provided, but the College is in a position to undertake more formal research contracts for the Ministry of Supply and other external organisations.

The College has been equipped with the most modern apparatus available, including such equipment as wind tunnels and differential analysers. In addition to the normal laboratory equipment there is a wide range of modern artillery and infantry weapons, searchlights, radar, fighting vehicles, communications equipment, and an experimental ballistics range. For research purposes many of the professional staff have their own personal laboratories.

The College is both a university and a military institution. This is reflected in its combined civil and military educational staff.

The four faculties of Mathematics and Physics, Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering and Instrument Technology are each directed by an eminent professor, who has under him two or more branches staffed by civilian associate professors and lecturers. The College does not yet possess a faculty of Civil Engineering. The faculties are responsible both for the young officers' courses and for the technical staff course.

The three Military Directors of Study (Colonels), with their small staff of technical staff officers, are outside the civil faculty organisation and are responsible for military application in the Technical Staff Course, and, in general, to ensure that the work of the faculties is biased, where bias is needed, towards the needs of military technology.

Study Groups

THE study of military technology is conducted by way of ad hoc study groups and panels under the direction of the appropriate Military Directors of Studies, and instructional staff. Each group or panel is assigned, for the time being, to the study of one of such subjects as air defence, communications, automotive transport, ammunition, tropicalisation and lubrication. Expert representatives of the War Office, Ministry of Supply and Army schools and other establishments frequently attend group and panel meetings, which are thus a fruitful means of spreading a common doctrine.

The College is commanded by a Major-General and it has been particularly fortunate in its first post-war Commandant, Major-General J. D. Shapland, CB, DSO, MC, who had a distinguished war record in Burma. In December 1949, when he was transferred to the British Army on the Rhine as Major-General in charge of Administration, he was succeeded by Major-General W. J. Eldridge, CB, CBE, DSO, MC. General Eldridge has had a wide experience in high appointments in the War Office, and was Director-General of Artillery at the Ministry of Supply, was in fighting service in France in World War I and in Anti-Aircraft Command and in Italy in the recent war.

The College has been equally fortunate in its Dean, Dr C. H. Lander, who is the head of the civil professional staff. He was formerly a Professor of Engineering in London University and is an acknowledged expert on fuels.

The Army Council is advised in matters of policy regarding the College by an Advisory Council of distinguished civilians drawn from the universities and from industry together with certain high ranking officers and ex-officers from the War Office and Ministry of Supply. The

chairman is Sir Henry Tizard, who is also chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee of the Ministry of Defence and a scientist of international repute.

The results of the first efforts of this Army university, which is only two years old, and thus in its extreme infancy, are encouraging and reveal that its work appears to be on the right lines. The first young officers still have a year of their course to go before graduating for their Bachelor of Science degrees. But the first year examinations showed results comparing favourably with those of the old established universities of Britain.

The graduates of the first technical Staff Course have already been assigned to their first appointments as technical Staff Officers. The College authorities are confident that they have done what they were required to do but experience alone can show whether the requirement was correct. Doubtless the curriculum will be streamlined and reshaped from year to year, but that is entirely healthy and proper in a live institution.

C.V.R. Thompson Reports The American Scene

NEW YORK. JUST one town in all America reported today that business had gone up as a result of the nationwide sales with which shops are trying to stave off a great buying slump.

And even in that town—Wilmington, Delaware—just one shop had good news.

That was the 75-year-old department store of Crosby and Hill. Most shops have tried to disguise the reason for their sales—buyers' resistance—with such phrases as "inventory clearance," "inflation price cuts."

But Crosby and Hill published full-page advertisement for what they called their "Cat and Dog" sale. "We are really burned with this junk," they confessed. "Please, please take it off our hands."

Sample items: "Ladies' all-wool sweaters—we had the nerve to ask three dollars 95 cents for these once. Well, it didn't hurt to ask, odd lot of shower curtains—and brother, we really mean odd; printed rayon jersey—make yourself Miss Sad Sack of 1949 and six billous patterns to choose from."

Result: Crosby and Hill's sales rose 40 percent in one day.

THE REAL barometer of American prosperity, said Stanton Sanson, a Pennsylvania hosiery manufacturer, is the American woman's leg. Said he: "As the average American bank roll gets thicker the nylons of the average American woman get thinner."

Today's barometer reading—nylons are so thin you have to look twice to make sure they really are stockings.

WASHINGTON is writing letters to the Board of Trade asking them to bring out a Do and Don't for British businessmen visiting America for the first time. Suggested sample in the Don't column—don't leave your boots outside your hotel room; they won't get polished and may get stolen.

THE PEOPLE of Three Rivers, Texas, are feeling foolish. They refused a rebuff for Felix Longoria, a hero of the Pacific war, in their cemetery because he was of Mexican origin, and in Texas they look upon Mexicans as some other Americans look upon Negroes.

Then Washington announced that Longoria would be buried in America's national cemetery and with full military honours.

SHOW BUSINESS. Broadway is planning to put on a British-style pantomime next Christmas with Gertrude Lawrence as principal boy. . . . Ben Hecht is quietly busy with film writing—for Samuel Goldwyn this time. . . . Hollywood hopes to make Brian Roper, a 15-year-old English actor, a "juvenile James Mason," halfway between Mickey Rooney and Freddie Bartholomew. . . . George Sanders, who is planning to become an American citizen, told columnist Leonard Lyons that he "cannot wait" to see England again. . . . Dorothy Parker, America's greatest wit, is wiring all her friends from Hollywood this week-end: "Working on a new script entitled Lassie get down."

NANCY

Signed



By Ernie Bushmiller



Under the agreement, Israel retains effective control of territory its forces won in the fighting which started last October.

Mr Mayhew paid tribute to help given Britain by the U States under the economic recovery programme.

"To describe aid from the U States, as some try to do, as solving, is ridiculous," he said.

Associated Press.

THOMAS CUP FINAL

MALAYA WILL FACE DENMARK WITHOUT WONG PENG-SOON

Glasgow, Feb. 23.—The Malayan badminton team left here this morning in glorious sunshine on their way south to Preston, Lancashire, for the final of the Thomas Cup against Denmark on Friday and Saturday.

Their jubilation over the inter-zone final win against the United States was tempered by the bad news about Wong's arm and that a weakened side would have to take the court against the Danes.

Wong was really hardly fit to play against the United States, but the Malayan manager, Mr. Lim, decided to persevere with him and purposely minimised his injury as he did not wish him to make excuses in advance should his team have lost.

The loss of Wong is a bitter blow to the Malaysians, but they are not dependent. As Mr. Lim philosophically said, they have not seen the Danes in action and cannot, therefore, say what difference Wong's absence will make.

The Danes were genuinely sorry to hear the news at breakfast this morning. It came as a great surprise to them and to most people as few had any idea that the Singapore player was unfit.

Joern Skarup, the Danish champion, told Reuters: "I am very sorry to hear about it, but I think the Malaysians are right not to play a half fit man."

There appears to be some difference of opinion among the Malaysians over the composition of the team for the final. Some feel that Law, who was so easily beaten last night by the Americans No. 3 should have been dropped. He is said to suffer from nerves and to lack the big match temperament.—Reuters.

WITHOUT BENEFIT OF BOXING

Savold Keeps Making The Headlines

New York, Feb. 23.—For a defeated boxer, Lee Savold, the New Jersey heavyweight, seems to be doing very well for himself. Recently returned from Britain, where he lost on a fourth round foul to the British champion, Bruce Woodcock, Savold continues to loom large in the headlines as a possible challenger to the world champion, Joe Louis.

As far as publicity is concerned, Savold, at the moment, seems to be ahead of the erstwhile No. 1 challenger, Ezzard Charles, and Bill Dally, Savold's manager, is striking while the iron is hot. Dally, only a few hours after stepping from the liner from Britain, was off to Chicago to talk to Louis.

Dally did not persuade the champion to accept Savold as an opponent for June, but he was able to keep his man's name well in the public eye. As a result, the talk is that Savold may be the one to step into the ring with Louis at the Yankee Stadium in June.

NO ELIMINATOR

Savold and his manager have refused to commit themselves to an eliminating match with Charles, the winner to fight Louis, because, as Dally explains, he is still confident that he can tempt Louis to try his hand against Savold first. They are convinced that if Louis fights again, he will be beaten, especially if his opponent is Savold.

More and more critics are becoming convinced that Savold might be a big drawing card as he is being conducted on the challenge of his opponent. It indicates that there may be "something in the wind."

STUDYING LOUIS

Savold has been studying his own style in relation to Louis and he has concluded: "I have a style to make a good fight of it. The best punch used to get him up for left hooks and right jabs. My footwork isn't as fast as Conn's but it's faster in comparison with Louis than Billy's was when they fought the first time."

"Right now I'm in better shape than I have ever been and I am a better fighter than I ever was. I can punch better than Conn with anything, right or left, and I'm bigger."

Savold and Dally left a considerable amount of money they had earned in Britain in a London bank, but that fact does not concern them. "We will have to go back next

COLONY TENNIS

Steady Steady!

By "RECORDER"
The third day of the Colony Open Grasscourt Tennis Championships at the HKCC yesterday saw Au Kam-moon, one of the CRC's many "Near Best Ten" players, extend last year's semi-finalist, R. Segalen.

The match, which varied from periods of pallid to occasional flashes of good killing at the net, saw Au Kam-moon twice climb into a lead of 3-0 on tactics modelled on Segalen's own game.

The match was finally abandoned with the score at 6-4, 4-6, 3-3. Au winning the first set after leading 4-1 and 5-3. It will be replayed on Monday.

The keynote was always "steady, steady" Segalen did not look a certain winner in the third set, though he was keeping the initiative, and it may well be said that the decision of the umpire, Major C. W. L. Way, was a lucky break for both.

Au was tired and rattled, but quite determined. Segalen, who has confined most of his tennis lately to hard courts, was just beginning to get a feel of the bounce.

ATTRACTIVE

The majority of the spectators yesterday were drawn to Court 5 where Ip Koon-hung, seeded No. 1 in this year's tourney, was playing 17-year-old Norman Lo of the University.

They watched Lo defeat himself, largely through inexperience, after keeping Ip on the run for a fair portion of the game. Lo was trying to rush the China National champion off the court.

In the process, he was more spectacular than effective. Though his stroke-play had a range not far short of that of Ip's, it can hardly be said that he touched the champion's standard yet for accuracy or match tactics.

Ip refused to be disconcerted and kept Lo from storming the net with good-length drives.

THE RESULTS

The results were:
T. E. Baker beat E. M. Hayhurst, 6-1, 6-2.
Wong Siu-ki beat H. K. Hamilton, 6-0, 6-0.

Au Kam-moon vs. R. Segalen, 6-4, 4-6, (unfinished).
P. Poon beat G. A. Lemay, 6-0, 6-0.

Ip Koon-hung beat Norman Lo, 6-1, 6-4.
Euse Yu-wing beat G. H. Wigglesworth, 6-0, 6-0.

SKIDOG



Frostie, trained Labrador Retriever, and champion dog skier of Sun Valley, Idaho, starts on his daily run down Dollar Mt. equipped with all necessary gear for a long glide.

SATURDAY'S FA CUP TIES

GIANT KILLERS AT HOME TO THE HOLDERS

By FRANK BUTLER

The Football Association Cup Competition is still running to form. After the sixth round draw, it is shaping more than ever like a Manchester United-Portsmouth rendezvous at Wembley on April 30—always provided the first and second favourites are not drawn together in the semi-final.

I can already hear protests from Hull City and Derby County fans, who will not have it that Manchester United can win at Hull or that Derby will go under at Portsmouth. Yet the form tips must be Manchester and Portsmouth.

Having spoken of form, I now hasten to say that the Cup-holders have a tough task against Mister Carter's Tigers, the pluck-killing, who crushed Blackburn, Grimsby, and Stoke.

Portsmouth, too, must watch their step against the line Derby County team—ideal Cup fighters.

Portsmouth's chairman Vernon Stokes thinks 1949 is another Portsmouth year for Wembley, which would mean their fourth appearance in the final in 20 years.

HAPPY OMEN

Says Mr Stokes: "We seemed to be booked for Wembley every five years until the war broke the sequence. We were beaten by Bolton in 1929, beaten by Manchester City in 1934, and we beat Wolves in 1939. So it could be that 1949 is another Portsmouth year."

He instanced another coincidence: "When we won the Cup in 1939, we were drawn at home in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth rounds. This has happened again. We take it as a happy omen."

Vernon Stokes said that the directors had decided against an all-ticket match for three reasons: 1, to upset the black-marketeers; 2, to avoid a last-minute crush of ticket-holders; 3, to protect the many supporters from outlying districts who would not be able to get in to buy tickets.

Portsmouth kept secret their plans for the distribution of stand-tickets for the tie against Newport. At the previous League match fans were handed white tickets on which they had to make their applications. They were told that the unlucky ones would be given priority for the sixth round in the event of the club being drawn at home—and that's how it is going to be," says the Pompey chairman.

"WORTH WATCHING"

Rich Carter, of course, is happy about the draw. He wanted to home tie for the Hull fans who have travelled for the last three rounds. Hull have decided on an all-ticket match with a limit of 55,000.

Says Carter: "The draw suits us. I played against United in the semi-final last year when they knocked out Derby County. They are one of the finest sides in the First Division. The match will be worth seeing, because both sides play skilful football."

Wolves v. West Bromwich will be an all-ticket tie, with the same crowd limit as at Hull.

Wolves manager Stan Cullis is dreaming of a repetition of the 1939 final, when he led Wolves against Portsmouth.

IRC 2ND XI

The following have been selected to represent the IRC 2nd XI in a match against the Royal Navy, at Home on Saturday, at 1.45 p.m.—A. H. Pratt (Capt.), P. M. Newman, D. Silva, Dr. A. M. Rodrigues, Dr. E. L. Gosano, Dr. T. Gosano, L. G. Gosano, G. N. Gosano, A. P. Pereira, Dr. M. A. Belton, Dr. H. L. Ozorio, E. M. L. Soares, Umpire, A. V. Gosano.

RECREO 2ND XI

The following will represent Club de Recreo in a league match against the Navy 2nd XI away on Saturday, at 1.45 p.m.—E. Noronha (Capt.), L. S. Alves, L. E. Gutierrez, A. V. Lopez, A. Osmund, D. Remedios, R. Remedios, E. M. Horvath, J. A. Soares, L. Vieira, C. A. Yvanovich.

OPTIMISTS

The Optimists will be engaged in two cricket matches this week-end. On Saturday in the Senior League against KCC at Cox's Road at 1.45 p.m. they will be represented by: L. B. Ribeiro (capt.), K. A. Miller, A. Smith, W. J. Slater, N. H. Oliver, P. Thorpe, P. P. Mahon, R. W. Franklin, M. M. Little, W. L. Howard, D. McLellan, and N. Wood (treasurer and umpire).

In an inter-club match at Clatter House on Sunday at 11 a.m. against the Seagulls, the Optimists will be represented by: L. B. Ribeiro (capt.), A. H. Erson, N. H. Oliver, M. Wood, W. J. Slater, P. E. Arthur, G. T. Howe, K. A. Miller, D. McLellan, R. W. Franklin and J. S. Kingsley-Edwards.

Cochet Loses In Straight Sets

Paris, Feb. 23.—Frank Parker, of the United States, beat Henri Cochet, the famous French star of pre-war days, in straight sets in their quarter-final of the French covered courts tennis championships today.

Parker, with his volleys and fast returns, dominated the game from start to finish, although Cochet fought hard and took the third set to 10 games.

Parker won 6-2, 6-4, 6-7.—Reuters.

MELBOURNE'S PLANS FOR OLYMPIC GAMES

The award of the 1956 Olympic Games to Melbourne would mean not only the provision in that city of stadium and other facilities for the purpose of the presentation of the Games, but the establishment in Melbourne of a permanent Stadium and associated features of Olympic Standard for the use of Amateur Athletic Associations in Victoria, and to serve as a centre of Athletic endeavour in the South West Pacific for the presentation of Empire Games, Pan-Pacific Games, and other National and International Athletic Festivals.

A basic Plan, approved by the Victorian States Government, the Melbourne City Council and the Olympic authorities in Australia, has been prepared to use the sixty-acre Show Grounds of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria as the site for the erection of the Olympic Stadium, of Swimming and Diving Stadium to Olympic Standards, and of training and living accommodation for Athletes.

MEET ALL REQUIREMENTS

Within four miles of the City centre, adjacent to the main Airport, and adequately served by rail and road transport, with the ability to handle in comfort 200,000 visitors daily, these Grounds meet all the requirements for the presentation of the Olympic Games and for their subsequent development as one of the world's greatest centres for Amateur Athletics.

The Victorian Government is so impressed with the possibilities that it has given the plan its wholehearted support and guarantee of financial backing, and the plan will be submitted by the Australian delegation to the International Olympic Committee when that body meets for its session in Rome from April 24 to 28 next, at which the venue of the 1956 Games will be decided.

It will be recalled that an earlier plan envisaged a stadium at Olympic Park, and Yarra Parks on Balmain Avenue, less than a mile from Prince's Bridge. This is the stadium drawn in the Olympic Book.

Empire Games

Auckland, Feb. 23.—Entries for next year's Empire Games here will close on January 31, 1955. The closing date has been extended from December 13, 1949, at the request of Australia.—Reuters.

RUGGER

Singapore Services XV Due Today

A Singapore United Services Rugby XV is expected to arrive in the Colony at 4 p.m. today by R.A.F. plane and will be met by representatives of the three Services. During their stay here they will play the Club on Saturday at the Valley and on the following Wednesday they will meet the United Services Hongkong XV at Sookun-poo at 4 p.m.

The big game of their tour will be against the Colony side on Saturday, March 5 at the Club ground. This side to represent the Colony was selected yesterday and the selectors appear to have produced a well balanced XV which will take much to overcome. The team will be: F. Crawford (Club), R. de Rome (Club), D. Henderson (Club), J. L. Pittet (Army), M. Tulp (Belmont), D. Nolan (Club), J. R. Henderson (Club), J. L. McClement (Tamar), K. L. Neffan (Club), H. M. G. Forgate (Club), J. L. Pappin (Army), Cdr. Daigian (Tamar) (Captain), C. P. G. Storey (Black Swan), I. V. Carrel (Club), J. Wane (Club), R. Reeves, Lt. Goss (Army), P. Hutson (Club), AD Mitchell (Tamar).

"London" Welsh Win Naval Seven-A-Side

Some keenly contested rugby matches were witnessed at the Navy ground, Cussey Bay, yesterday when the semi-finals and final of the Far East Fleet annual seven-a-side tournament were played. The Challenge Shield was presented to the winners, London Welsh by Sir Patrick Brind, the Commander-in-Chief of the Far East Fleet.

In the final, London Welsh defeated Black Swan Ducks by eight points to five.

The following were the results: First Round: Black Swan Ducks beat Black Swan Ducks 7-0; London Welsh beat London Scottish 7-0; Eastbourne beat Belmont 6-0; London Welsh beat Alacrity 6-0; Dampier beat Belmont 6-0; Tamar beat Belmont 6-0. Quarter-finals: London Welsh beat Tamar 6-0; Black Swan Ducks beat London Welsh 6-0; Dampier beat Tamar 6-0; London Welsh beat Tamar 6-0. Semi-finals: London Welsh beat Black Swan Ducks 6-0; London Welsh beat Black Swan Ducks 6-0. Final: London Welsh beat Black Swan Ducks 6-0.

Club Juniors Win—A hard-fought game of rugby was seen at Happy Valley yesterday when the Club 2nd XI defeated the Club 1st XI by nine points to six in an inter-club match.

Small, King and Nelson scored for the winners and Robinson and Henderson for the losers.

Oxford Will Start The Favourites—London, Feb. 23.—Oxford and Cambridge crews are beginning to take on permanent shape for the University Boat Race to be rowed over the traditional Putney to Mortlake course on the river Thames on March 26.

Only one or two positions in each boat remain to be finalised. The crews are now engaged on the last stages of their preliminary training, Oxford at Henley and Cambridge in home waters.

Both are expected to move to Putney on March 7 for the final period of intensive practice on the tidalway itself.

GOOD WATERMANSHIP—Neither crew has shown outstanding form in practice so far, but there is no lack of enthusiasm and keenness among them. Both have shown good watermanship in rough weather and the ability to maintain a lively drive even after a long outing.

Oxford will have the advantage of weight, their present crew averaging 12 stone 11 pounds. In this respect it is interesting to note that the heavier crew has won two-thirds of the boat races held so far. Oxford are to have a new boat for this year's race, costing £250. Cambridge, lacking sufficient funds, are not building a new craft.—Reuters.

Oxford Crew—Oxford University announced its crew on Wednesday for the annual boat race against Cambridge on March 26.

The crew will be: Bow: G. Fisk (Geelong and Oriel), Two: C. V. Devleke (Eton and Trinity), Three: W. J. H. Leckie (Edinburgh Academy), Four: A. L. Arundell (Marleborough and Merton), Five: T. Rowe (Eton and Trinity), Six: T. Rickett (Arbury and Trinity), Seven: J. N. Clay (Eton and Magdalen), Stroke: J. Cavanagh (Winchester and Madgalen), Cox: A. Palgrave Brown (Shrewsbury and Queens)—Associated Press.

Badminton League

Kowloon Tong "A" beat St. John's "A" by six matches to three in the Men's Doubles "B" Division of the Badminton League last night.

Scores were: M. C. Hing & C. H. Ngan (Kowloon Tong "A") beat D. Kwok & R. Maynard 21-5; beat S. Fowler & R. Thompson 21-12; beat F. Kwok & N. Whitley 21-7.

P. Lee & S. C. Chan (Kowloon Tong "A") beat Kwok & Maynard 21-15; beat Fowler & Thompson 21-7; beat Kwok & Whitley 21-8.

M. K. Fung & S. H. Leung (Kowloon Tong "A") lost to Kwok & Maynard 13-21; lost to Fowler & Thompson 21-23; lost to Kwok & Whitley 17-21.

SHORTAGE OF REFEREES

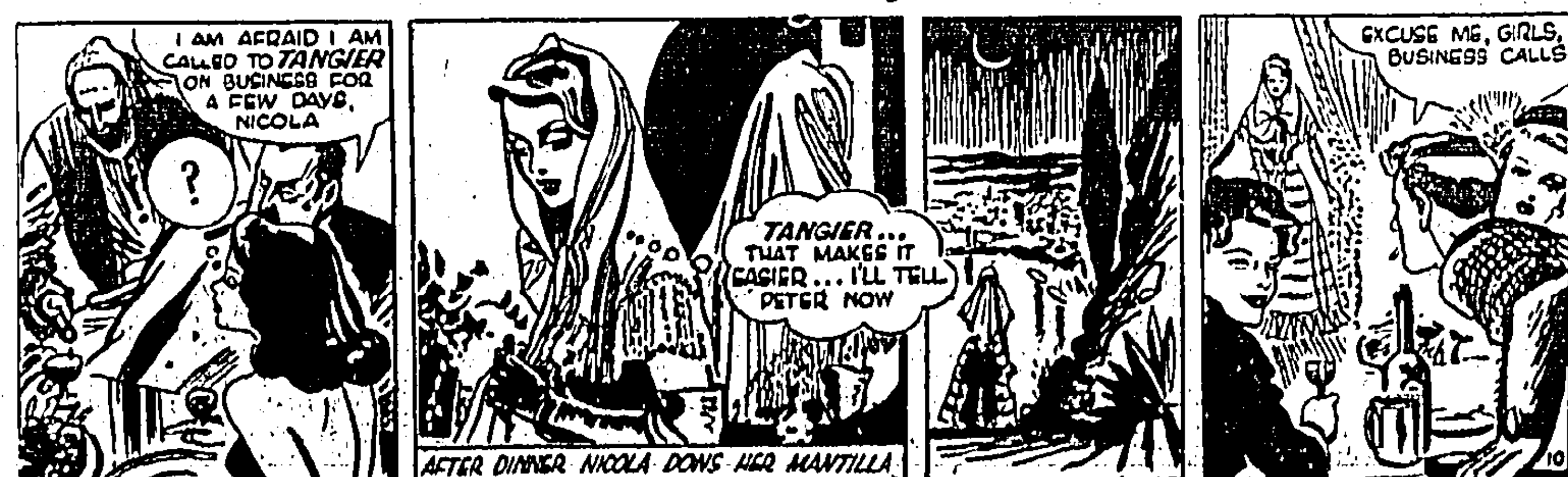
At an extraordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Football Association held at the Jacobean Room, Hongkong Hotel, yesterday, Rule 20 of the rules of the Association was amended by adding the words "except with the permission of the Council" between the words "active lists" and "active players."

The Hon. A. Morse, proposing the amendment, said there was a shortage of referees, and those on the active list sometimes have to officiate at two games in the same afternoon or officiate at two games in two consecutive days. There were some referees on the Football Council, but because of Rule 20, they were not allowed to officiate at any of the matches. Therefore, the amendment was sought to relieve the shortage of referees.

YMCA Hockey XI

The following will represent the European YMCA against Dutch H.C. at Sookunpoo on Sunday at 10 a.m.—Coyne, Hunt, Jakes, Boycott, Weldon, Blenkinsop, Reserves, Lapsley and Robertson.

Mister Conquest



FOR YOUR SPARE MOMENTS

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Peculiar Defence Defeats Contract

By WILLIAM E. McKENNEY

IN everyday life we often run into situations that are a little irregular or out of the ordinary. That happens too in the game of bridge, and, as in the game of life, we must meet the situation that confronts us.

Today's hand was given to me by Watson B. Miller, U.S. Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization. The hand came up on one of his trips to the west coast. He made a peculiar play to defeat the contract, and he wanted to know if his play was right.

The irregularity on this hand is that North and South should have

554	10082
AK10002	101
73	854
52	Q107
Q3	W N
Q3	E S
KQJ06	101
JQ04	854
AKJ6	Q107
54	101
AK102	854
AK83	Q107
Rubber—Neither vul.	
South West North East	
2 N.T. Pass 1 Pass	
3 N.T. Pass Pass Pass	
Opening—K	6

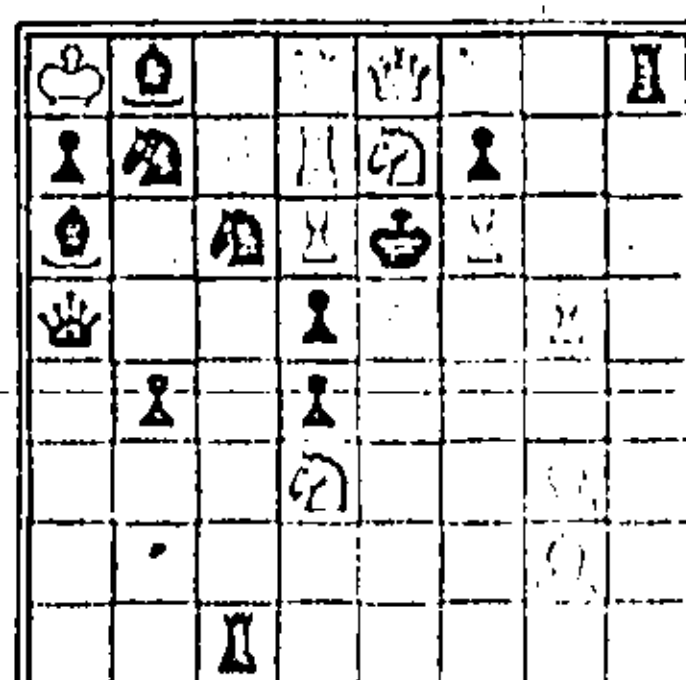
played it at hearts. They should have had no trouble in making four hearts, but against Watson, they arrived at a three no-trump contract.

South laid off the diamond suit until the third round, which he won with the ace. Now he led the four of hearts and Watson put on the queen, the only play that will defeat the three no-trump contract. If he had played the small heart, declarer would have put on the ten-spot from dummy and East would have won with the jack. Then, regardless of what East returned, declarer would win it and cash five heart tricks.

By playing the queen, Watson upset the declarer's appeal. If he let the queen hold the trick, Watson would cash his other two diamonds. South went up with dummy's king of hearts and was unable then to set up that suit.

CHESS PROBLEM

By L. MANGALIS
Black 13 pieces

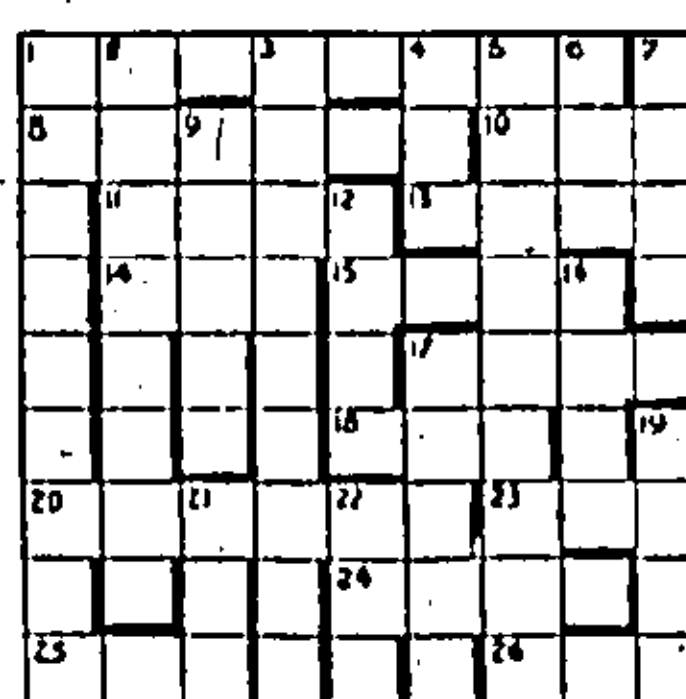


White to play and mate in two

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. K-R4. 1. Kt-B1. 2. Q-Q3. 1. Kt-B3. 2. Kt-B2 (dis ch). 1. P-Kt6. 2. B-K1. P-Kt7. 1. P-Kt6. 2. B-K1.

CROSSWORD



Across
1 and 9 (1) reshapes the letters of (10).
10 Made up of "wet" and "7" (3)
11 and 12 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
13 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
14 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
15 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
16 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
17 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
18 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
19 Tere veg for a change (4, 4)
20 Change from solid to liquid state into gas (6)
21 Initially where promotion is gained (3)
22 A 6 grain (4)
23 Just a tiny one (3)
24 He's in this ideal home (3)
25 He's in this ideal home (3)

Down
1. Distinctive (8)
2. One of the Sappers (8)
3. Not being in the district will make the pair about (10)
4. Found in his easy chair (8)
5. The mean one different (10)
6. See 1 Across, 7 Across (4)
7. Can be timed (8)
8. See 1 Across, 10 See 10 Across
9. Ye don, of cricket? (8)
10. Run very quick (4)
11. Easier to get into than out of (8)
12. In was awarded a C.B. early in life (9)

Solution of yesterday's puzzle—Across
1. Scrambled (10)
2. Wet (3)
3. Tere veg (4)
4. Tere veg (4)
5. Tere veg (4)
6. Tere veg (4)
7. Tere veg (4)
8. Tere veg (4)
9. Tere veg (4)
10. Tere veg (4)
11. Tere veg (4)
12. Tere veg (4)
13. Tere veg (4)
14. Tere veg (4)
15. Tere veg (4)
16. Tere veg (4)
17. Tere veg (4)
18. Tere veg (4)
19. Tere veg (4)
20. Tere veg (4)
21. Tere veg (4)
22. Tere veg (4)
23. Tere veg (4)
24. Tere veg (4)
25. Tere veg (4)



Check Your Knowledge

1. Name the oldest town in Cuba.
2. What part does the venom of the rattlesnake play in the world of medicine?
3. How can you tell the age of a tree?
4. Where is Sugar Loaf Mountain?
5. Other than Australia, name the largest island in the world.
6. Why are United States Marines called "Leathernecks"?

(Answers in Column 4)

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

The Hobby Horse Ran Away

—He Paid a Visit to His Mother—

By MAX TRELL

IT was Teddy, the Stuffed Bear, who gave the warning, but at first no one in the playroom believed him.

"The Hobby Horse is running away," Teddy shouted. "He's running out of the door!"

It isn't surprising that Mr. Punch and his wife Judy, and Mary Jane, the rag doll, and General Tim, the tin soldier, and Miss China Doll, and Mrs. Cuckoo, who lived in the clock, and Knarf and Jlanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, all laughed and thought that Teddy was only joking. But when they looked in the corner where the Hobby Horse always stood, they were astonished to see that he wasn't there any more. Indeed, the only one who saw any part of him at all was Knarf—and he saw the end of the Hobby Horse's tail just as it was swishing out of the door.

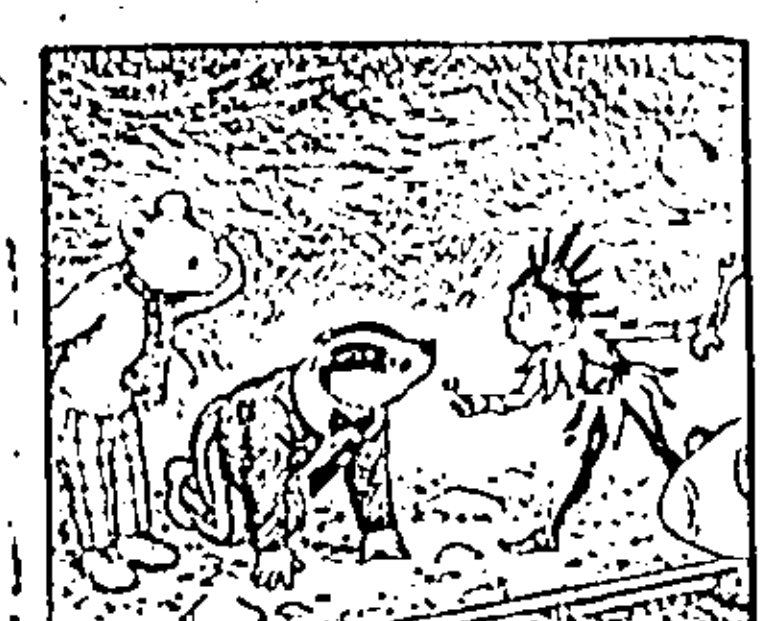
Into the Garden

Knarf ran after him at once. Out into the garden, where the full moon was shining, galloped (or perhaps rocked) the Hobby Horse. Knarf finally caught up with him at the garden gate.

"Come back! Where are you going?" cried Knarf.

The Hobby Horse didn't answer. Instead he bounded over the gate and sped down the road, with Knarf chasing after him as fast as he could.

Rupert's Elf in Bell—19



Before they can recover their wits Rupert and Bill land in a gloomy tunnel half full of fog. The Acorn Elf is standing near, and in front of them is a little rail track. "Now you won't be long," says the Elf. "But what exactly do you want us to do?" asks Rupert, feeling rather dazed. "I want you to go to Elf Castle and tell them to send six more elves without delay to help me here," says the other. "If any one stops you, show him this," and he gives them a small card, which he gives to the little bear.

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RECORDED MUSIC: OUTSTANDING ALBUMS OF SHAKESPEAREAN DRAMAS

By DAVID C. WHITNEY

ORSON Welles and Fay Bainter with the Mercury Theatre Players have recorded an outstanding series of Shakespearean dramas. With music by Bernard Herrmann, the many-sided albums take up well over an hour each to play.

The works include "Macbeth," "Merchant of Venice," "Twelfth Night," and "Julius Caesar." Columbia records produced the series to bring the classic plays into homes in the voice medium for which they were intended.

RCA Victor presents another in its series of recorded operettas with Rudolph Friml's "The Vagabond King." Earl Wrighton, baritone, and Frances Greer, soprano, sing the exciting score with assistance by Al Goodman's orchestra. The album is outstanding.

For a playable song and dance album in which every side seems to be better than the last, M-G-M's "Words and Music" takes the award. With a cast including June Allyson, Judy Garland, Lena Horne,

Mickey Rooney, Betty Garrett and Ann Southern, the Rodgers and Hart music from the movie of the same title is given a regal send-off. The songs include such old standbys as "Where or When," "The Lady Is a Tramp," "There's a Small Hotel" and "Thou Swell."

New Singles

The first discs since the lifting of Petrillo's record ban, are beginning to be released.

"A Little Bird Told Me," a sprightly new novelty song, has been rushed out to wax by Victor with the first appearance of Rose Murphy on the black label. However, Columbia's version of the same number with Jannette Davis and Jerry Wore is considerably peppier and more soothing than the piping voiced Miss Murphy.

The Dinning Sisters with Jack Facinello's Orchestra have a clever medium tempo number about the "Harlem Sandman" (Capitol). Gracie Fields has two lightly romantic numbers, "Underneath the Linden Tree" and "For Ever and Ever" (London).

"Slaughter on Tenth Avenue" makes two sides of what might be called symphonic jazz—more for listening than dancing—with Lennie Hayton leading the M-G-M studio orchestra (M-G-M).

Cass Franklin, accompanied by Oscar Walthers' Orchestra, brings an oriental quality to "Mysterious" by singing in an unusual arrangement using both Greek and English lyrics (Apollo).

A rhythmic number for dancing is "Sweet Sue, Just You," by Johnny Long and his orchestra (Signature).

(Tomorrow—Unusual Angles).

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Baracca, founded in 1512. 2. It is used as a hemorrhage control serum. 3. By counting the rings in the wood. 4. In the harbour of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. 5. Greenland. 6. Because in 1779 they wore black leather stocks around their necks.

YOUR BIRTHDAY..... By STELLA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

BORN today, your talents in the field of literature are outstanding and only need to be developed to bring you real achievement. You have the gift of words. Poetry may appeal to you most; drama next, and romantic literature mainly for your own enjoyment. You probably will be an excellent letter writer and your friends will eagerly await the postman!

You have a keen sense of humor and a fine feeling for the dramatic. You of the fair sex might be interested in trying for a career on the stage, but you would not do it unless you are sure of the offer of an outstanding success did not come quickly. And that, unfortunately is a failing many another born on this day may have. You will

start many things; finish few. Learn to stick to a job until it is done.

Loyal and sincere in your own affections, you are not one to question the protestations of loyalty from others. Be on your guard against those who might try to hitch their wagon to your ascending star!

Learn to keep your own counsel when making future plans. Talk about them when they are completed—not before you have started. You might want to change them and explaining takes such a lot of time! To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Those connected with the commodity trades are especially favoured at this time. Make real progress.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—Employees are especially favoured. Those in the food and restaurant trades appear to get their demands.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—The day may present certain limitations, but if you don't demand too much you may get more than you expect.

GEMINI (May 22-June 22)—Books and publishing are favoured. You may receive news—or write it to someone else!

CANCER (June 23-July 23)—Advertising and promotion can augment your business. Keep your mind active. Concentrate on a job.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Optimism pays good dividends today. You may be adventuresome in some new project. Anticipate success.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Those connected with food and sales of medicinal products are favoured. Expect increased profits.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Selling is stepped up. Consider a new agreement or arrangement for increasing your earning potential.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—If you are alert, you can make a quick adjustment to even the most surprising changes in your life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Be less aggressive than you were yesterday, but finish up any job you have begun.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Avoid being too adventuresome. You will make better progress if you are moderate in your demands.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—If dealing with the public, you should be eminently successful. You may find new inspiration.

By Harry F. O'Neill

BRONCHO BILL

Time for Action



FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

"Sizeable Gains" In Jap Industry

Tokyo, Feb. 23.—With Japan's average monthly pig iron production now four times what it was three years ago, Allied Headquarters report sizeable gains in nearly every industry from basic metals to fountain pens.

The monthly bulletin bristled with optimistic figures on Japanese industrial recovery.

The Industrial Recovery Division pointed out that steel ingots and rolled steel production had tripled in the last three years.

It said increased production was made possible by additional imports of coke, coal, manganese ore and fuel oil, together with general Japanese economic recovery.

Officials expect cotton spindle exports to increase 50 percent, cotton loom exports 80 percent and silk and rayon looms 100 percent over the 1946 totals during the coming fiscal year.

The bulletin reported that the first sizeable foreign purchase since the end of war was for nearly 3,000,000 yen worth of large machine tools for Japanese government railway shops—United Press.

SHIPS ORDERED

Tokyo, Feb. 23.—Allied Headquarters announced today that contracts had been signed for the construction of five steel ships in Japan. The contracts call for the building of one oil tanker for Norway, and a tanker and three cargo vessels for Denmark. Payment will be in terms of United States dollars.

The largest of the ships will be the tanker for the Norwegian Line, an 10,000-tonner to be completed by May 31, 1950, by the Kawasaki heavy industry plant at Kobe.

The other four ships, including a 17,000-ton tanker, and three cargo vessels of 5,170 tons each, will be built by the Mitsui Shipbuilding Company at Tamano. Delivery of the tanker is planned for August, 1950, while the three smaller vessels will be delivered by March, 1950.—United Press.

14 Nations Approve Rice Commission

Washington, Feb. 23.—Fourteen nations have approved the International Rice Commission, as outlined in the Philippines in March, 1948, the Food and Agriculture Organization said today.

It added that the United Kingdom and Panama are expected to approve it before the International Conference at Bangkok on March 3. FAO said its Bangkok plans are well organized for considering rice production, conservation, distribution and consumption.

The 14 nations which have so far approved the commission's constitution and are expected to attend the Bangkok session are Burma, Ceylon, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, France, India, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Siam and the United States.—Associated Press.

N.Y. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Closing Rates	US\$200/100
Argentina (Official)	2007
Argentina (Unofficial)	2024
Australia	3.22
Belgium	0.660
Canada	0.628
Chile	0.628
France	0.631
India	0.631
Mexico	1.435
New Zealand	4.02
Peru	0.631
Portugal	0.631
South Africa	0.631
Sweden	0.631
Switzerland	0.631
Uruguay	0.631
Venezuela	0.631
Netherlands	0.631
Batavia	0.631
Singapore	0.631
Hongkong	0.631
Shanghai	0.631

CHINA PRODUCE QUOTATIONS

New York, Feb. 23	Closing Prices Feb. 23
Almond Oil, per lb. F.O.B.	US\$0.85/90
Cash Oil, per lb. F.O.B.	2.10/2.50
New York	2.10/2.50
Agar Agar, per lb. F.O.B.	2.75/3.25
New York	2.75/3.25
Sawwood, in bulk cwt.	13.00 nom.
depending on quantity & quality	
Tung Oil, in bulk cwt.	0.2115
Beryllium (10 to 12 percent) per ton	25.00/30.00
Molybdenum (90 percent) per lb.	0.54

Australia Watches Falling US Prices

Canberra, Feb. 23.—Australia's expected lower wheat cheque this year will be offset by a fatter wool cheque, probably reaching \$75,000,000, officials predict.

With experts forecasting a wheat income fall of as much as \$90,000,000, officials are watching anxiously the falling prices in the U.S. grain and cotton markets.—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:	
Sterling pound note (per £1)	10.25
U.S. dollar (per \$1)	5.135
Gold bars (per 100)	909.50
25.000000 (per 100)	8.775
Siam (per 100)	24.00
Indonesian (per 100)	61.0
Sold yuan (per 100)	2020

US Aid To China

Washington, Feb. 23.—The U. S. State Department today announced that up to February 18, a total of US\$123,050,000 had been paid by the U.S. Treasury to the Chinese government, or United States procurement agencies at the request of the Chinese government, under the military aid programme. This was an increase of US\$372,500 since February 11.—United Press.

World Shipping Losses

London, Feb. 23.—Lloyd's reported today that the world's merchant marine lost 67 ships, totalling 197,777 tons, in April, May and June, 1948. The figure includes scrapping and other causes, in addition to wrecks.—United Press.

POCKET CARTOON



Red Army's Celebrations Boycotted

West Military Chiefs "Unable To Attend"

Berlin, Feb. 23.—The Western Military Governors in Germany were "unable to attend" today's Berlin celebrations of the Red Army's 31st anniversary, marked through the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe by the traditional parades and demonstrations.

The top-ranking American, British and French commanders have received invitations to a reception this evening at the residence of the Soviet Military Government, Marshal Sokolovsky. The three Western Military Governors will be represented by their deputies.

West Sector Berlin police riot squads stood by this morning near the Soviet Memorial, just inside the British Sector, ready to prevent possible incidents.

MEMORIAL PARADE

At 10.15 a.m. (local time) a column of 100 smartly dressed uniformed Soviet officers, all armed with revolvers, marched up to the Unter Den Linden, through the Brandenburg Gate on the sector boundary, to the big white War Memorial.

With them were 20 Russian women. The party laid two wreaths, broke ranks, and walked in small groups back to the Soviet Sector.

A British spokesman said the Russians had not told the British they would parade into their Sector today, but no protest would be made since it is an established custom for Soviet soldiers to parade at the Memorial.

The Moscow Radio today broadcast an Order of the Day by Marshal Nikolai Bulganin, Soviet Armed Forces Minister, calling for a "high standard of military preparedness to be constantly maintained."

PRAVDA COMMENT

In an editorial on the anniversary, the Soviet Communist Party paper, Pravda, said that while the Soviet Union was successfully carrying out the post-war five-year plan, in the camp of the "imperialist exploiters of a new war, we hear a demonstrative rattling of sabres."

A Warsaw report from the official Soviet news agency, said that Marshal of the Soviet Union Konstantin Rokossovsky declared at a ceremonial meeting in the Polish capital that the "comradeship-in-arms of the Soviet and Polish armies, born of the second World War, will be as eternal as the growing friendship of the Polish and Soviet peoples."

The meeting, which was attended by the Polish President, Premier and Cabinet Ministers, sent a message of greetings to Generalissimo Stalin and Marshal Bulganin.

Tass reported from Prague that meetings of public bodies, attended by members of political leaders, and Service Chiefs, were held in the Czech capital and in most of the country's large towns.—Reuter.

'QUAKE RECORDED

Weston, Mass. February 23.—A strong earthquake was recorded at Weston College Seismological station on Wednesday at 4.23 p.m. GMT. Distance 5,600 miles; direction not clear.—Associated Press.



"Hasn't her teacher got her playing a little out of character?"

FINNISH GOVERNMENT ONLY JUST AVOIDS DEFEAT

Confidence Motion Won By Two Votes

Helsinki, Feb. 23.—Finland's Social Democrat Government, defeated on one vote of confidence, succeeded in remaining in power tonight by narrowly winning a second confidence motion soon afterwards. In the second poll, it attained the constitutionally stipulated two-vote majority, the figures being 97 to 95.

The votes came during a heated 30-hour debate, starting yesterday, on the agrarian policy. The first vote, according to Helsinki Radio, showed 97-96 for the Government but on a recount the voting was 97-97. The issue was settled by drawing lots which went against the Government. When the debate was continued a second vote of confidence was taken and this time the Government secured the necessary majority.

Lifting Of Berlin Blockade

Russians Putting Out Feelers

Berlin, Feb. 23.—Hints that the Soviet Union is prepared to negotiate the raising of the Berlin "blockade" were recently given to junior Western officials by members of the Polish Military Mission here, a high official of the British Military Government said today.

He said the hints were given earlier this month by the Polish "very inexact" approach made within a space of 48 hours to 14 different junior officials among the Western Powers.

The British official said that he did not think the Russians could stand the "loss of face" involved in calling off the blockade with nothing to show for it.

He said the Western attitude remained the same—no negotiation until the blockade is lifted. In the meantime, the airlift, now in its eighth month, would be continued as long as needed.

The British official said that responsible British observers in Berlin did not expect the Russians to "do it" and declared their willingness to remove their occupying troops if the other three occupying powers did likewise.

THREE ARGUMENTS

The reasons given were: (1) This move did not work in Korea, where the Americans refused to withdraw at the same time as the Russians. (2) The Communist-led Socialist Union would not be able to control in Western Germany, which had shown its anti-Communist sentiments in repeated elections. (3) The much publicized "People's Police" in the Soviet Zone was not nearly strong enough to impose Communism by force.

According to the best British information this force was badly led, badly armed and numbered less than 50,000. Estimates from other Allied and German sources in the past few months had ranged as high as 40,000.

Responsible Western observers had been little impressed by frequent calls by pro-Soviet politicians for a re-unification of Germany and an Allied withdrawal, the British official said. They regarded this campaign as "a desperate bid" for German nationalist support at a time when Western Germany was making rapid strides toward economic recovery and political self-government.

They did not think it foreshadowed any concrete move by the Soviet Union.—Reuter.

The Agrarian Party, which won the general elections last July, had asked the Government if it is aware that low fixed prices of farm produce, marketing difficulties, increased production costs and high taxation, have made the position of farmers and especially smallholders, untenable?

Parliament was asked to vote at the same time on a Conservative motion of confidence in the Government. The result, after automatic voting, was 96 for the Agrarian motion and 95 for the Conservative motion. Nine members abstained.

MECHANICAL VOTING

In mechanical voting, members press buttons automatically, recording their decisions. The Social Democrats, defeated, called for open voting which gave 97 to 97. Lots were drawn as constitutionally stipulated in case of equal voting and the Government lost. But, as if to insure itself, it had also tabled its own motion of confidence.

It was lost by the mechanical voting, which gave 95 for the Government and 97 for the Social Democrats.

The Social Democrats again demanded open voting, which gave 98 for the Government and 96 against. While the Premier, M. Karl August Fagerholm, and his Cabinet colleagues were congratulating themselves "the tellers announced that a Communist member had given in two slips."

The Communist member denied this and the People's Democratic Party wanted the matter referred to the Constitutional Committee.

The People's Democrats—merger of Communists and left wing Socialists—came third in the elections last July after the Agrarians, who won, and the Social Democrats, who came second.

Parliament refused to refer the matter to the Committee. A number of People's Democrats then left the House as a protest, saying the Government had retained power by a trick.

TO FORM NEW GOVT.

M. Fagerholm was reported to have left his party members privately after the debate that he would shortly form a Coalition Government because of the narrow victory. Usually well informed sources said he had decided during the Scandinavian military alliance discussions to form a Coalition if Norway should decide to join the proposed Atlantic Pact, with consequent diplomatic tension in Scandinavia and Finland.

The Social Democratic Government was formed last July despite claims for five ministerial posts by the People's Democrats. It was soon bitterly attacked by the People's Democrats and the Soviet press.

In December, the Soviet Legation in Helsinki warned Finland that "propaganda hostile to the Soviet Union is being carried out by irresponsible elements."

The note caused real concern to Finnish politicians.—Reuter.

Court Vindicates Doctors

Paris, Feb. 23.—A French court ruled today that three doctors did not violate the rights of their patient when they injected him with truth serum to get him to admit he was feigning loss of speech.

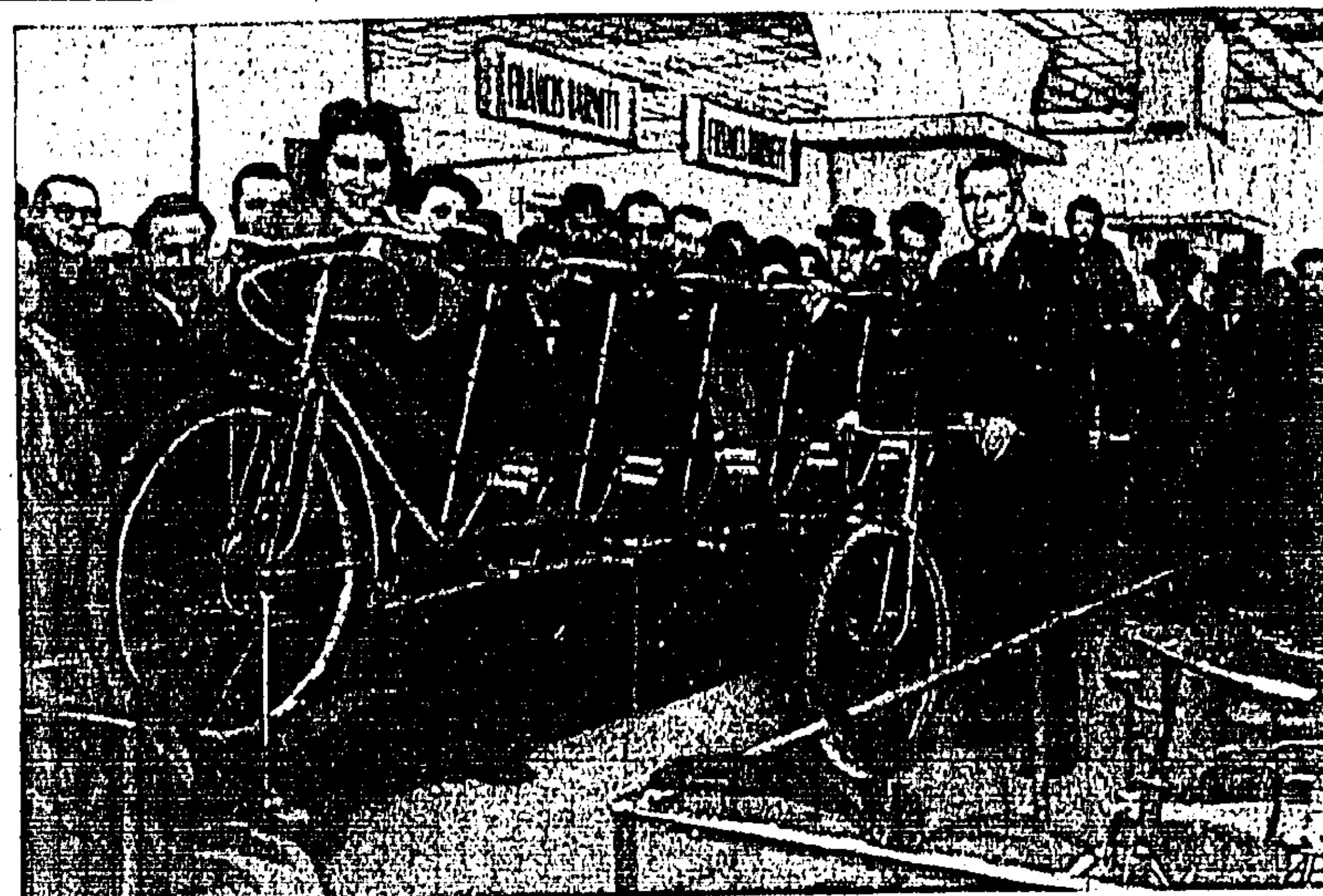
The court dismissed the damaged suit brought by Henri Cens against the doctors and directed him to pay court costs.

The doctors said they used the drug only to discover that Cens had been dumb since long after a bullet wound in his head had healed.—United Press.

Quest Continues For A National Anthem

Karachi, Feb. 23.—Pakistan Government officials, unable to decide on a choice of words and a tune for the Dominion's National Anthem despite long listening to the contributions of poets and musicians, have now handed over the task to a committee of Members of Parliament.

Asked in the Assembly today if this committee included a musician of repute, Minister of the Interior, Mr. Khawaja Shahabuddin, reassured the House with: "Yes, the Honourable the Minister for Food."—Reuter.



The old-time "Bicycle Built for Two" was a toy compared with this Belgian model made to carry ten persons or a weight of 2,204 pounds. The wheels, shown at the Brussels Motorcycle and Cycle Show will have special heavy-duty tires for the road.

CANDIDATES FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Mrs Roosevelt Is Included

Oslo, Feb. 23.—General Juan Peron, the Argentine President, his former film star wife, Eva, Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of the late President Roosevelt, were among 23 candidates for the Nobel Prize for 1949, published here today.

Six societies as well as the 23 individuals were included in the 1949 list of candidates. The other names were Dr Karl Renner, the Austrian President; Sir John Boyd Orr, former Director of the World Food and Agricultural Association and at present Chancellor of Glasgow University; Mr. Drew Pearson, the United States columnist; Dr. Raphael E. G. Armatte, the Irish peace writer and Director of the Lomshie Research Centre in Anthropology and Human Biology, Londonderry; M. Louis de Broquer, President of the Belgian Socialist Party; Senor Antonio Banchas de Bustamante y Sirven, Cuban expert on international law; Professor Rebe Caslin, French jurist, President of the Council of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers; Count Richard Nicholas Coughov-Kalergi, founder and President of the European Union; Secretary General of the Committee of the European Parliament; Dr. J. Gustavo Guerrero, Salvadoran jurist and diplomat; President of the Permanent Court of International Justice; Major General Frank T. McCoy, Chairman of the Far Eastern Commission; Eduard Milhaud, French social economist, Director of Unemployment Services of the International Labour Bureau.

OTHER NOMINATIONS

Others included were Don Jorge Hernandez Lille, Jeddah, the Chilean friend of peace; Maria Montessori, the Italian education expert; M. Theodore Hyssen, French expert on international law; Professor Georges Scelle, member of the Faculty of Law, Paris University; member of the International Law Commission; Don Miguel Tocornal, Chilean politician and expert on international law; M. Johannes Ude, Austrian theologian; Mr. Marcus Wald, South African rabbi; M. Raoul Widenberg, former secretary of the Swedish Legation in Budapest, who disappeared when the Red Army entered the city (the Russians have denied that they are holding him); M. Hans Wehberg, German friend of peace.—Reuter.

1,200 DP's Reach Canada

Halifax, Feb. 23.—Despite heavy Atlantic gales, the liner "Samaria," carrying 1,200 displaced persons to Canada, docked here today.

The liner was held back two days by heavy seas.

Aboard was eight-year-old Asuma Levaidis, the 50,000th person to be admitted to this country under the International Refugee Organisation. Also aboard were the first Dutch immigrants to Nova Scotia this year as farm workers. Most of the displaced persons will be sent to jobs in Ontario and Western Canada.—United Press.

Lake Success, Feb. 23.—The International tuberculosis campaign, aimed at immunising more than 10,000,000 people in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America, it was announced at Lake Success today.—Reuter.

Bulgaria Accused Of "Blatant Terrorism"

STRONGLY WORDED U.S. NOTE

Washington, Feb. 23.—The United States has accused Bulgaria of "blatant terrorism" in the arrest of 15 Protestant pastors on charges of espionage and treason, the State Department disclosed today.

The American charge was contained in a note which, according to the Department spokesman, was rejected by the Bulgarian Government "about 30 minutes" after it was handed to the Bulgarian Foreign Office.

The spokesman said that the note, which was delivered in Sofia last Monday, described the charges against the pastors as "unfounded and ludicrous." It said the U.S. Government considered the charges a "blatant, terrorist effort in cynical disregard of facts, designed to intimidate small, respected Protestant religious denominations in Bulgaria and discredit their sincere religious leaders."

The spokesman said, "The Bulgarians had the note about 30 minutes when the United States Second Legation Secretary, Raymond Finley Courtney, was called to the Foreign Office and the note handed back to him. Courtney was informed that the Bulgarian Government rejected the United States' representations."

LUDICROUS CHARGES

The 15 pastors were arrested on February 5 on charges of espionage, treason and black market currency operations, involving former attaches of the U.S. Legation in Sofia.

The American note said: "On instructions from my government, I have the honour to refer to a published indictment against 15 Protestant pastors in Bulgaria who are charged with 'espionage, treason and currency operations' involving the United States Government officials formerly on duty in Bulgaria. Such charges are unfounded and ludicrous. My government can only consider their formulation a blatant terrorist effort in cynical disregard of facts, designed to intimidate small, respected Protestant religious denominations in Bulgaria and discredit their sincere religious leaders. In the circumstances, my government reserves its rights under the treaty of peace with Bulgaria and requests that facilities be made available for representation of the United States Legation to attend the trial."—United Press.

POPULAR APPOINTMENT

Colombo, Feb. 23.—The appointment of Lord Soulbury as the new Governor General of Ceylon was welcomed here today as a "popular choice" in view of his close association with the island's independence.

The Ceylon Daily News said: "It will be welcomed by the many friends whom he made during his stay in Ceylon as Chairman of the Reform Commission and by all who are able to appreciate his share in planning the epoch-making constitutional changes which will be known to history by his name."

Lord Soulbury, whose appointment was officially announced in London yesterday, will succeed the present Governor General, Sir Henry Munkton-Mason Moore, towards the end of the year.—Reuter.

BIG MILITARY MANOEUVRES

Istanbul, Feb. 23.—The Turkish armed forces today began large-scale land, air and sea manoeuvres in and on both banks of the Bosphorus and near the entrance to the Black Sea, designed to test their ability to repel any attack from the Black Sea.

The heads of the United States Aid Mission to Turkey and a number of American observers and experts followed the manoeuvres. Camouflaged anti-aircraft guns were sited at strategic points on the coast and motorised units gave support.—Reuter.

Bicycle Built For Ten

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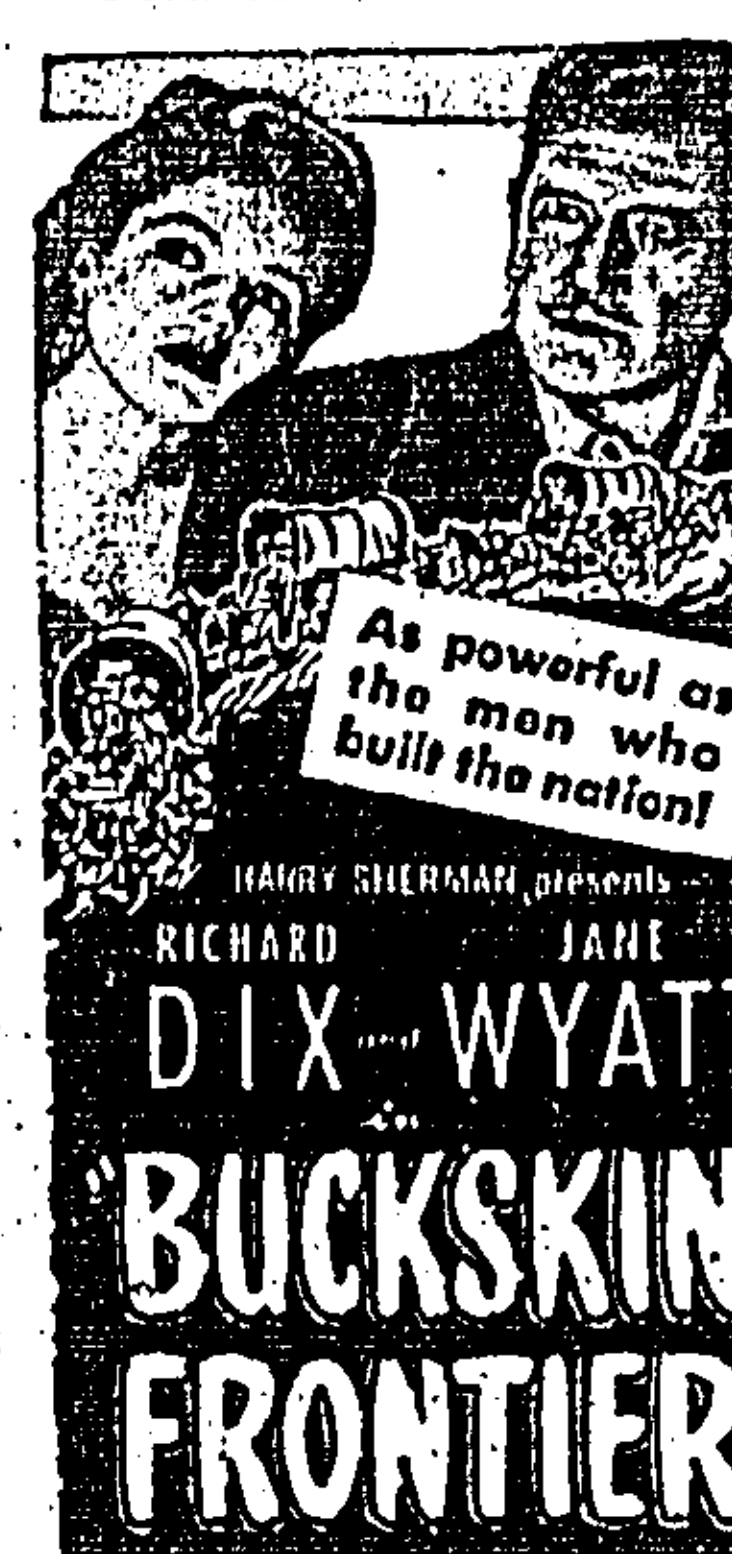
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NOTICE

THE REFORM CLUB OF HONGKONG

THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

will be held at The Roof Garden of The Hongkong Hotel on Friday, the 25th February, at 5.30 p.m.